



KING FORNÉS STEWART
DANGER
STREET



BOOK 8
WARLORD

17+
MATURE

DISCOVER HOW THE DARK KNIGHT MET THE MAN OF STEEL!

BATMAN • SUPERMAN
**WORLD'S
FINEST** #18



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AUGUST

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DANGER STREET

BOOK EIGHT

CHAPTER 8: THE WARLORD

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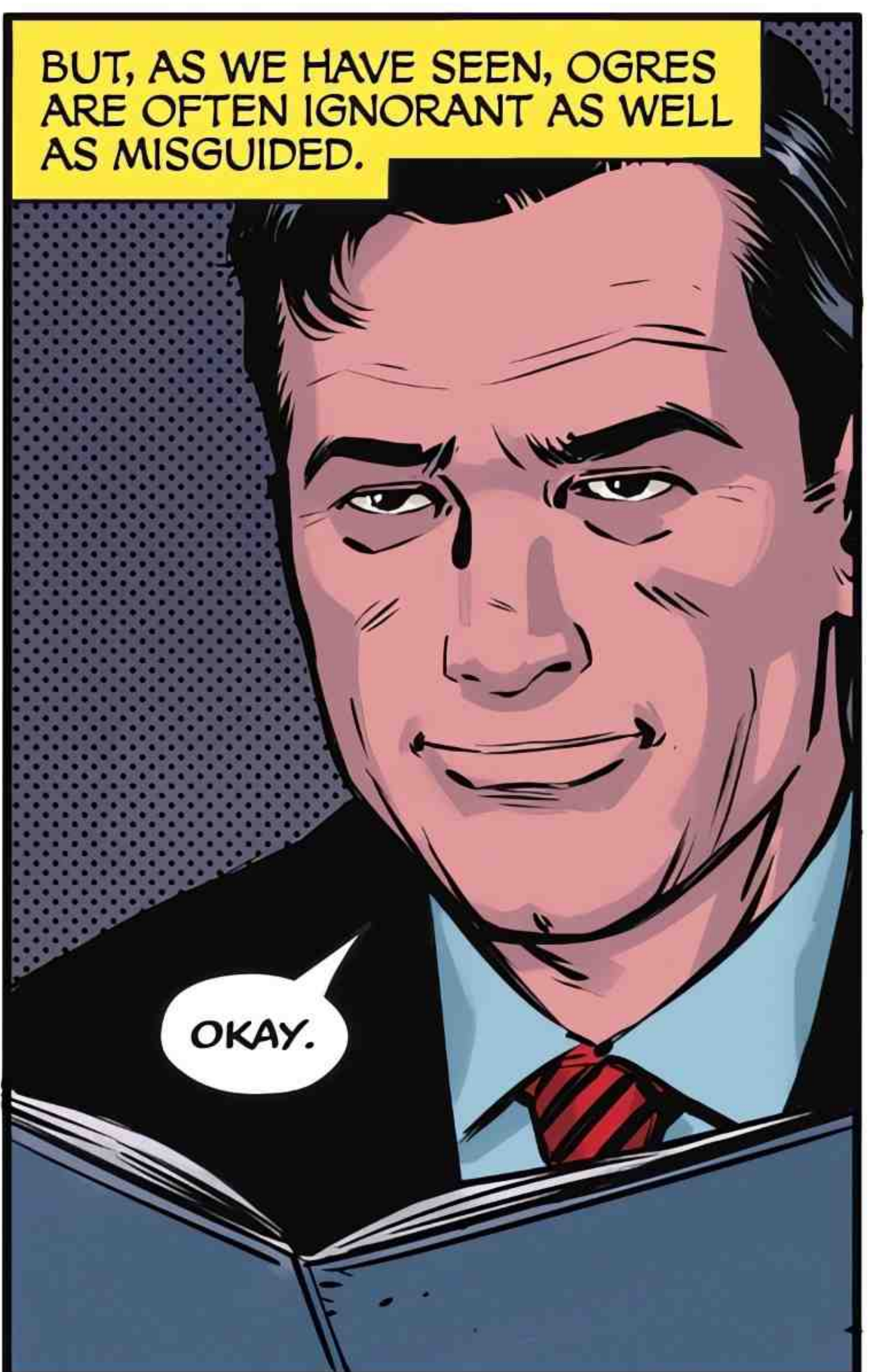
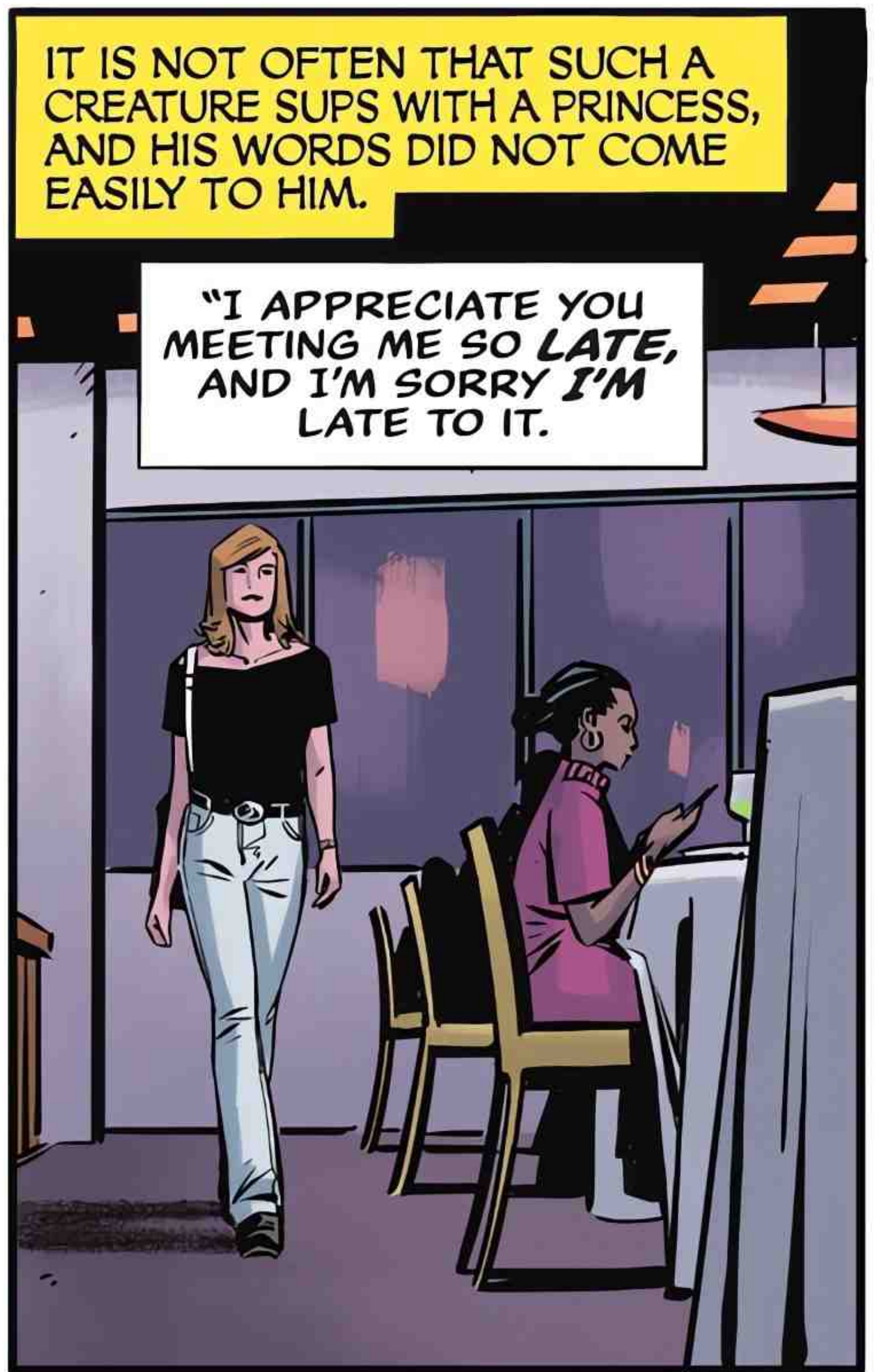
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MEANWHILE, IN THE PRINCESS'S OWN DUNGEON, A FAR TREK FROM THE VILLAGE, TWO OF OUR LADS CALLED FOR HELP.



YOU WILL REMEMBER, THEY HAD RECENTLY BEEN CAPTURED BY THE GUARD FOR VANDALIZING A SACRED SIGN.

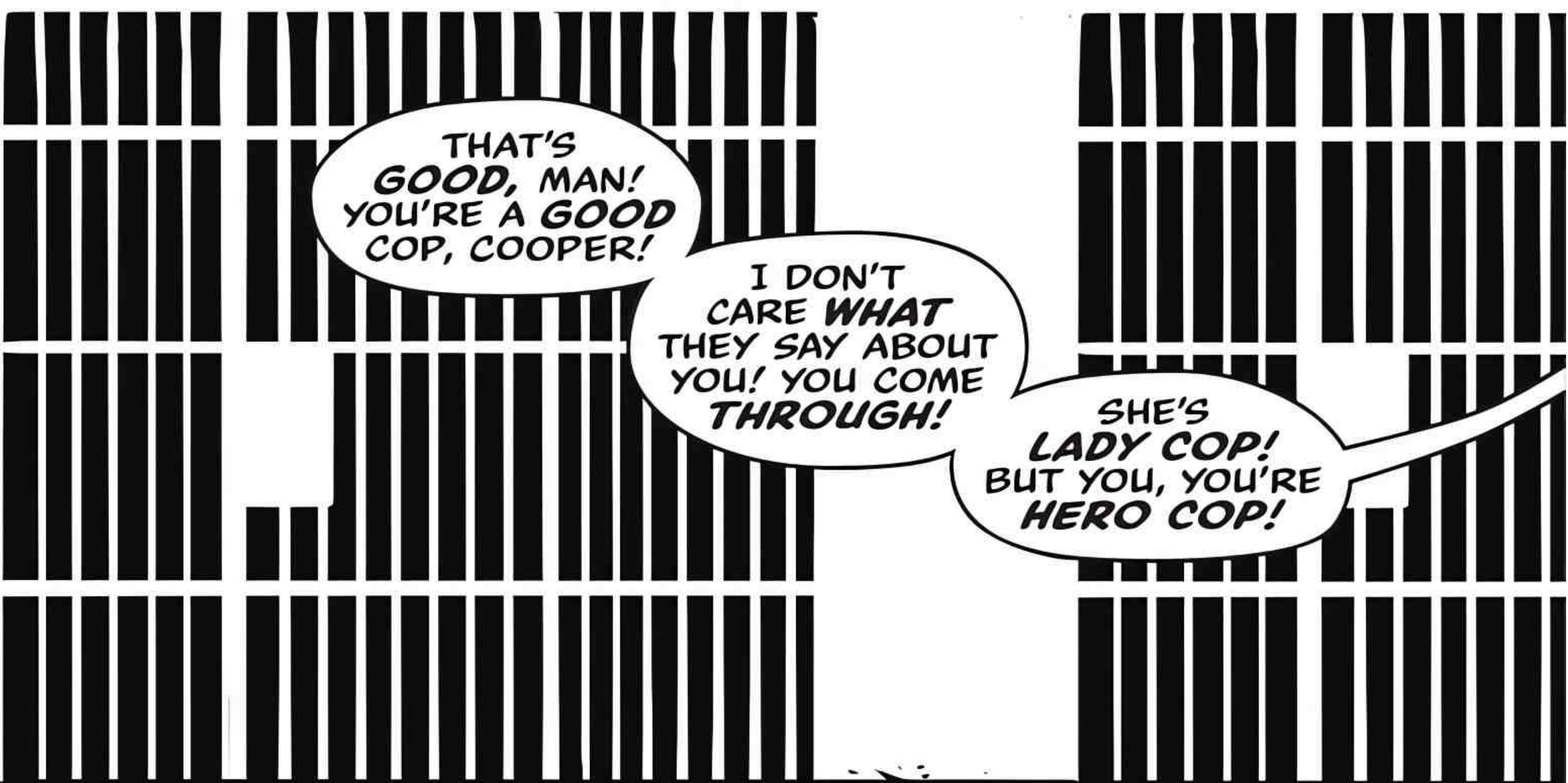
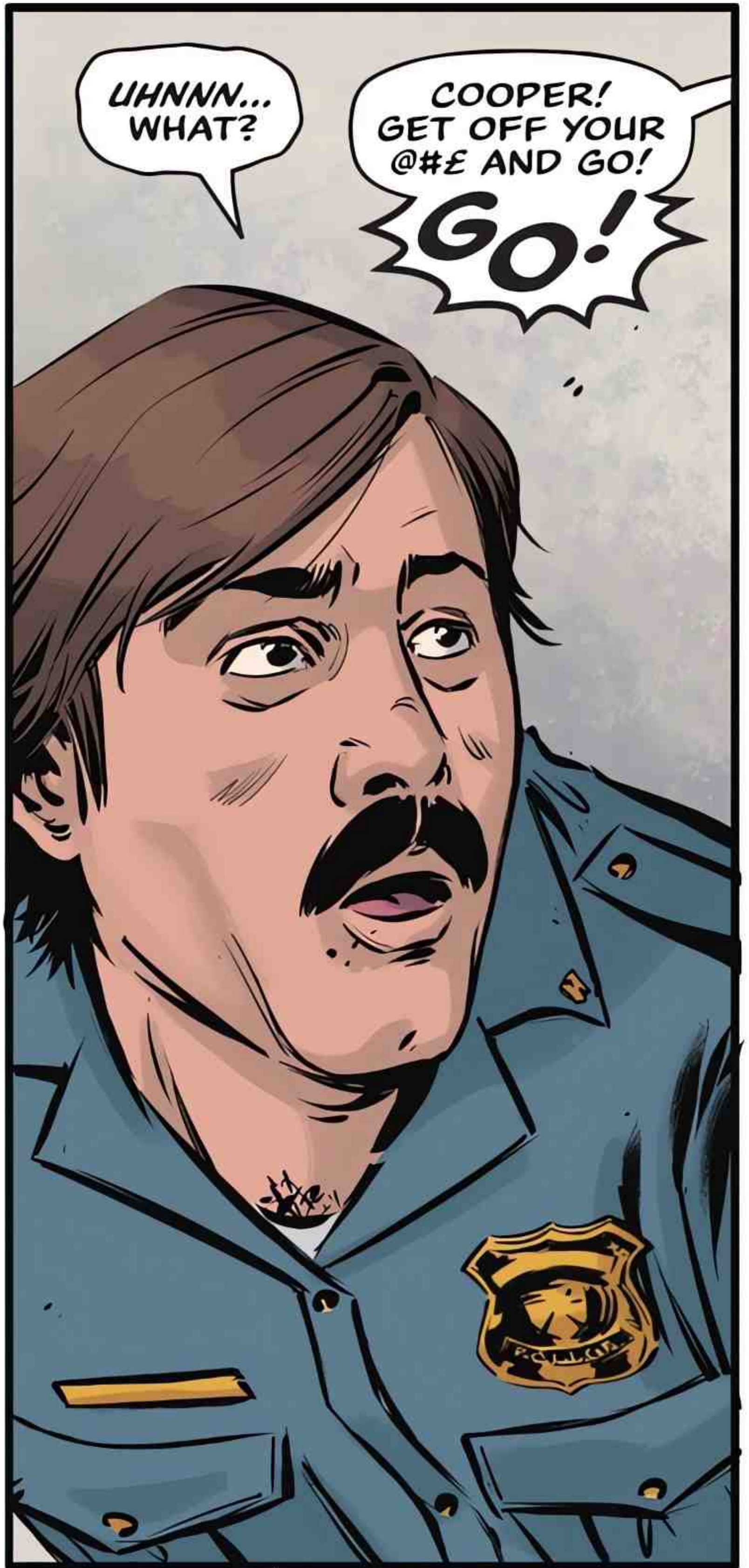


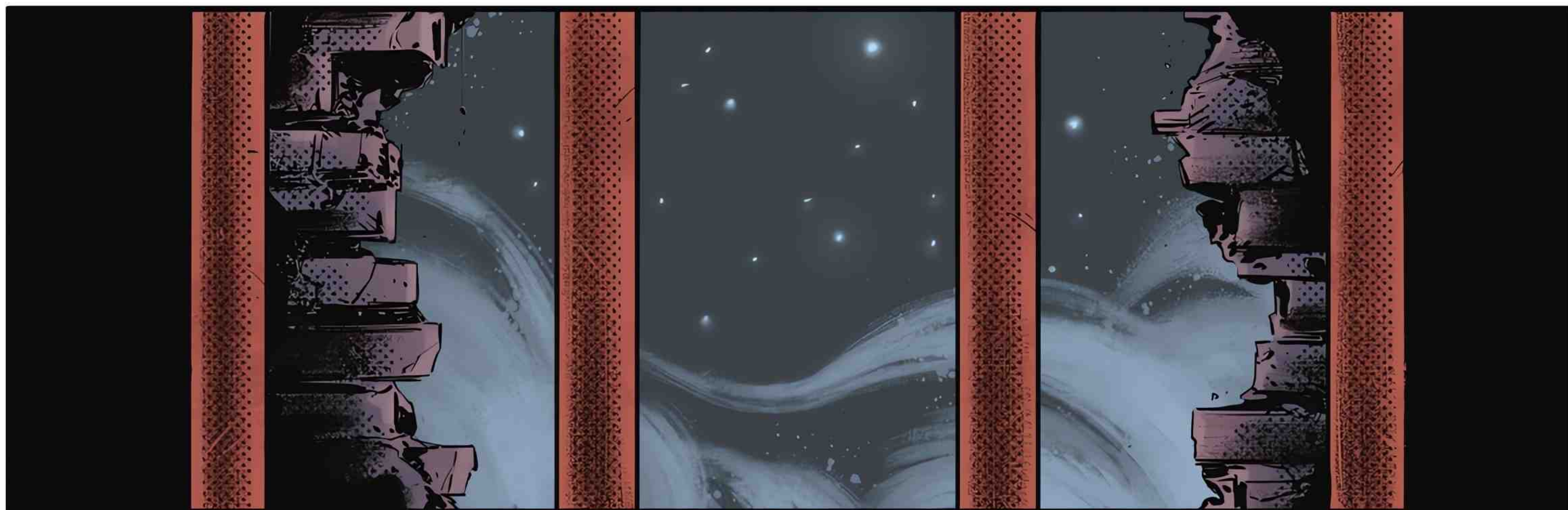
THIS, HOWEVER, TURNED OUT TO BE THE FIRST STEP IN A CLEVER RUSE.

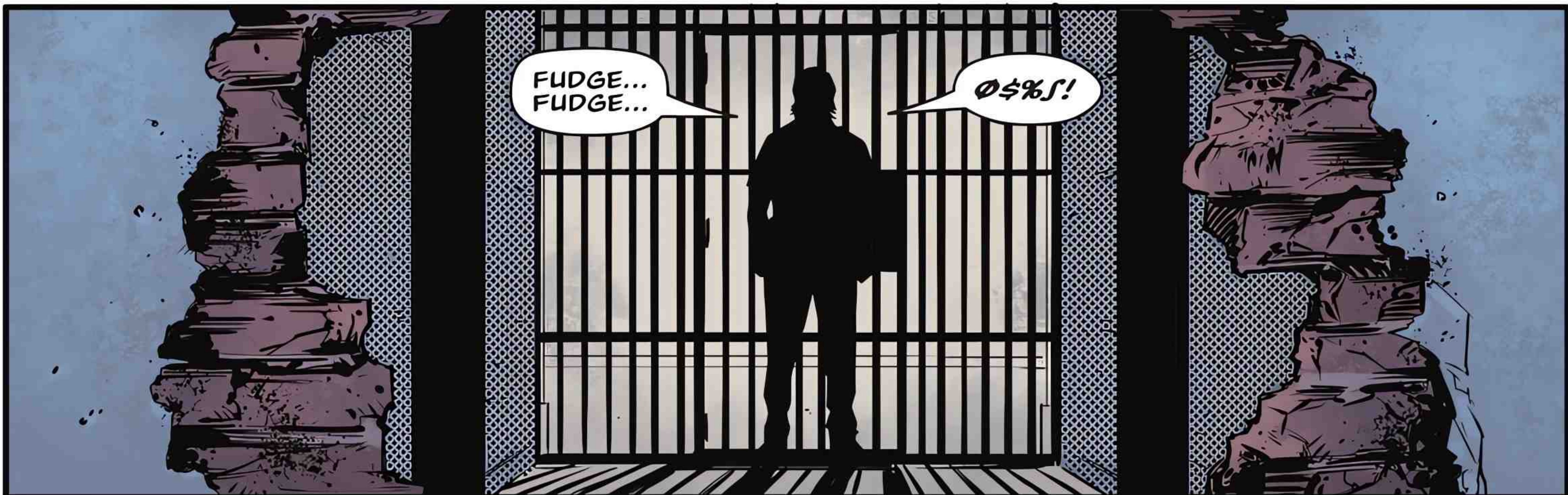
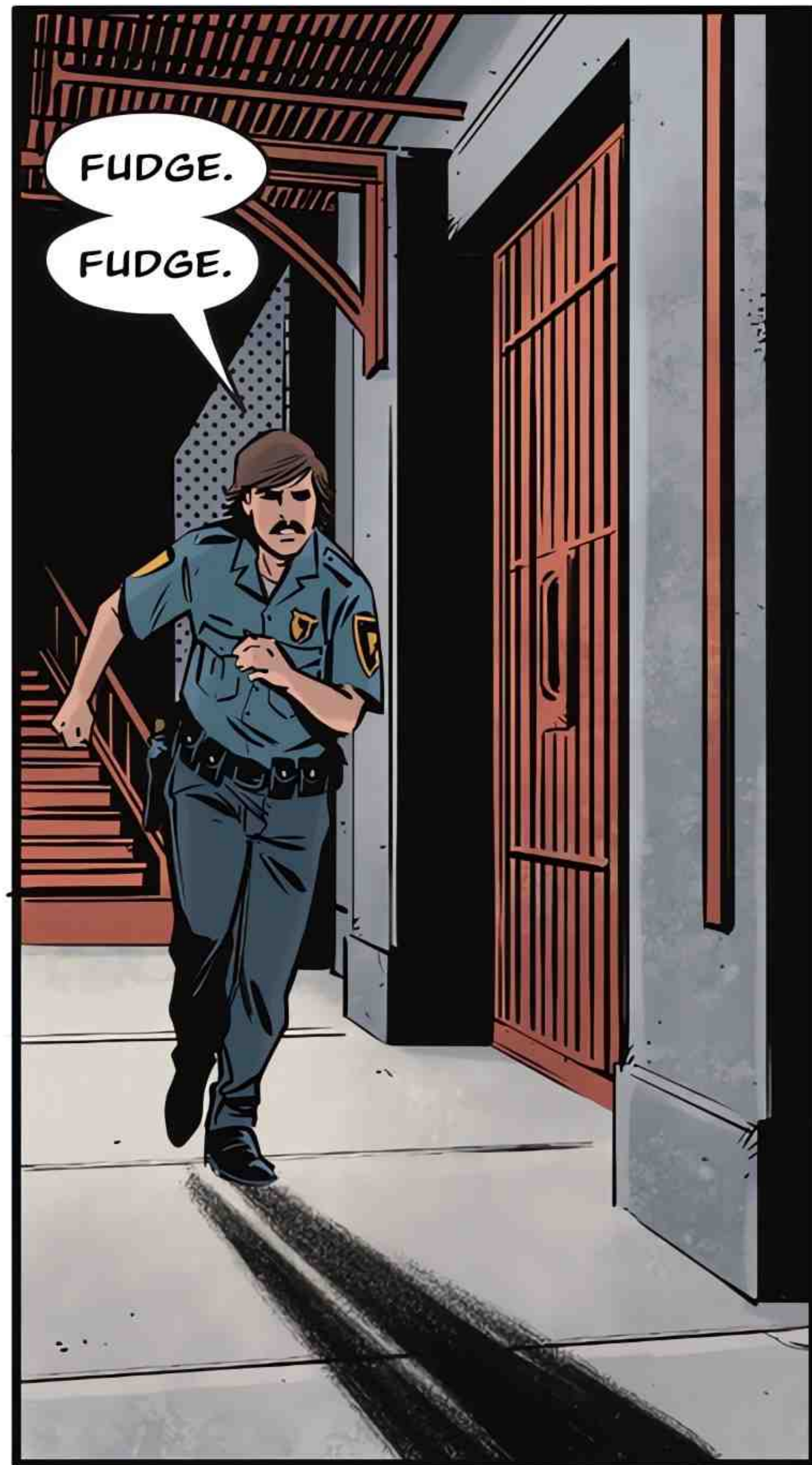
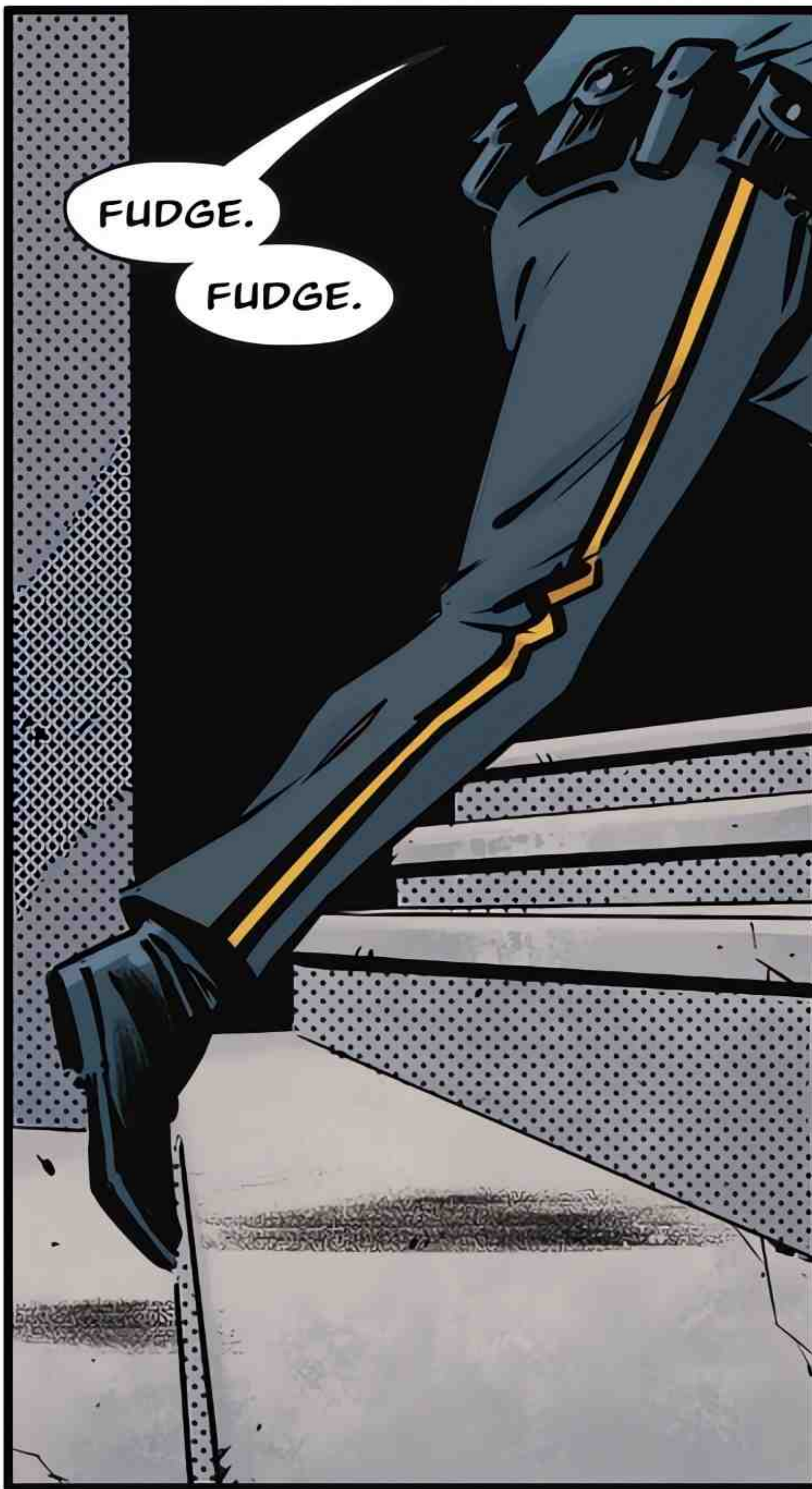


A RUSE THAT WAS JUST THEN ON THE VERGE OF REVEAL.

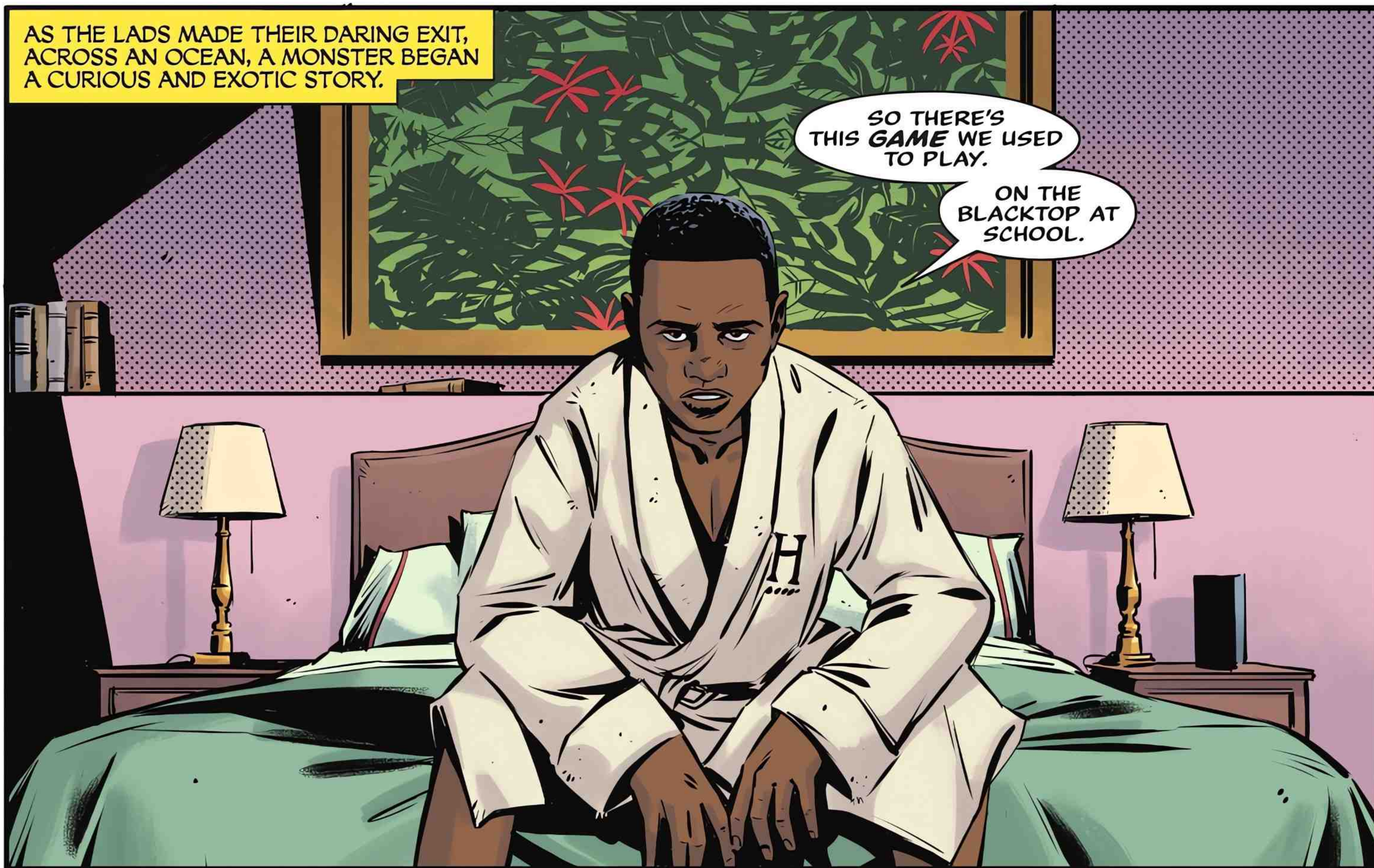








AS THE LADS MADE THEIR DARING EXIT,
ACROSS AN OCEAN, A MONSTER BEGAN
A CURIOUS AND EXOTIC STORY.



SO THERE'S
THIS **GAME** WE USED
TO PLAY.

ON THE
BLACKTOP AT
SCHOOL.



"THERE WERE
CRACKS IN THE
ASPHALT, SEE. A
BUNCH OF THEM.

"BUT OUT OF A FEW
CRACKS THERE WAS
STUFF GROWING,
WEEDS OR GRASS.



"AND WE USED TO DO
THIS THING WHERE
WE'D GO ACROSS THE
WHOLE THING. THAT
PART OF THE YARD,
I MEAN.

"AND YOU COULD
ONLY STEP ON
THE CRACKS THAT
HAD THE GREEN
STUFF COMING
OUT OF THEM.

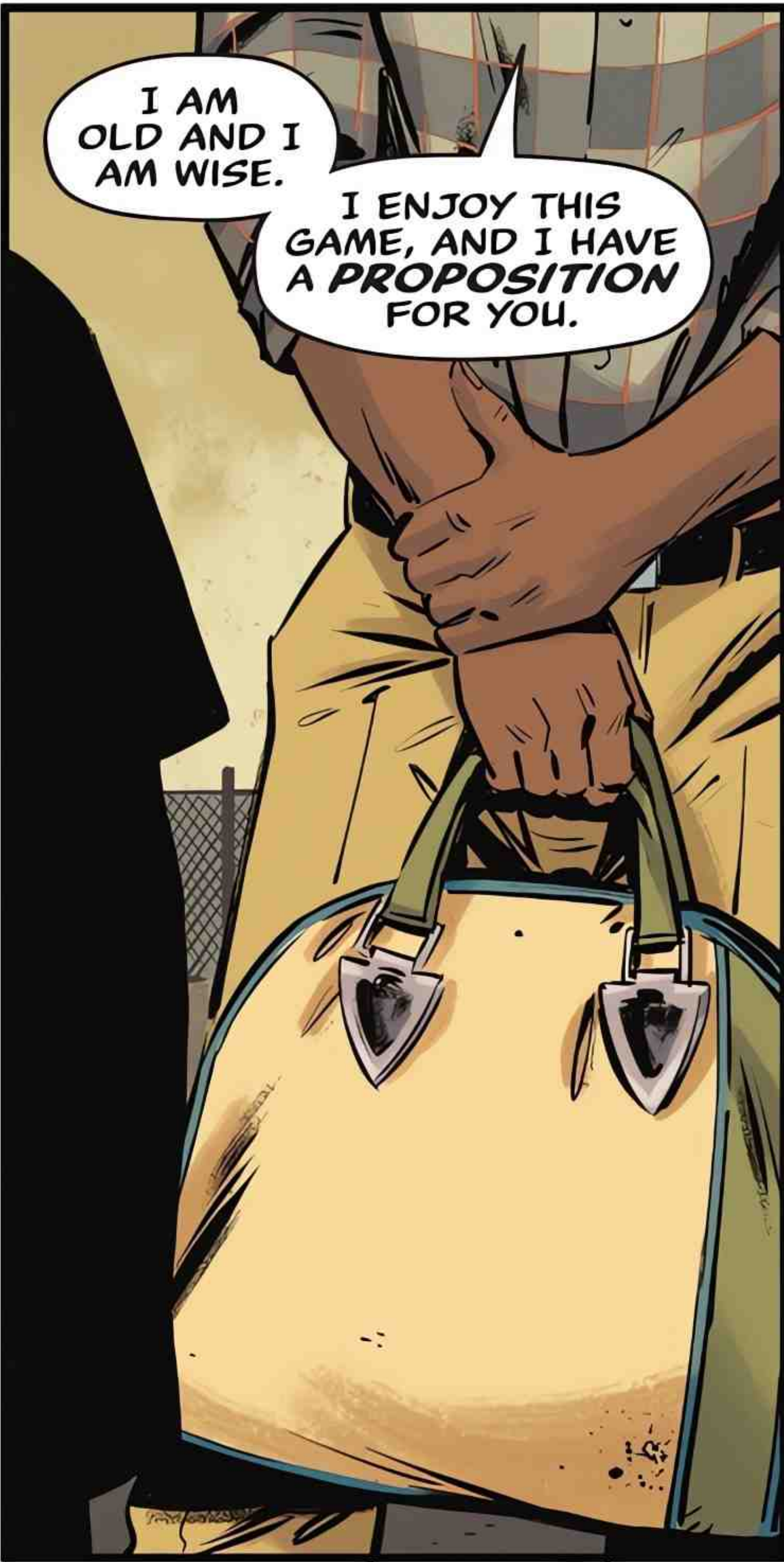


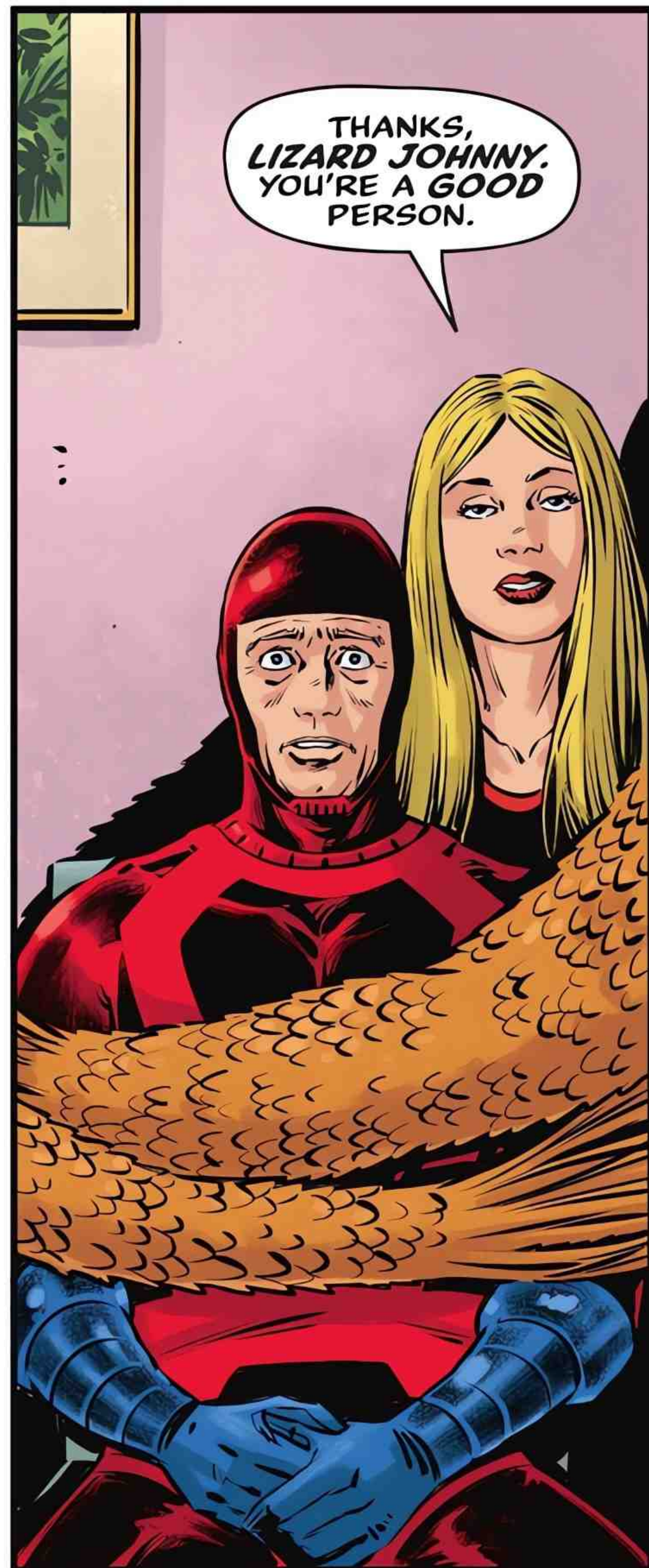
"AND SO THE GOAL WAS TO CROSS THE
WHOLE THING. GO TO THE WALL AND
BACK WHILE STAYING ON THOSE LINES.

"IF YOU MADE IT, YOU
GOT TO BE PART OF
THE WINNING TEAM
FOR THE DAY, WHICH
WE CALLED **THE
GREEN TEAM**.

"IF YOU LOST, IF YOU
PUT ONE FOOT DOWN
TO BALANCE OR JUMP,
IF YOU FELL, IF YOU
PUT A FOOT OUTSIDE
THE CRACKS, Y'KNOW...

"...THEN YOU WERE
AN **OUTSIDER**."





FAR AWAY FROM THESE ODD HAPPENINGS,
IN A CAVE IN THE SKY, A MONSTER
PREPARED A DRINK.

ABDUL
SURFACED IN
HAWAII, AT A
RESORT.

STOMP!

HE HID
FOR A **MONTH?! DIDN'T** KNOW LITTLE
ABDUL HAD IT
IN HIM.

OR MAYBE
YOUR **MANHUNTER**
ISN'T THE GREAT BIG
BAD WOLF YOU MAKE HIM
OUT TO BE. I SUPPOSE
THAT'S ALWAYS A
POSSIBILITY.

TWO HOURS
AFTER HE CHECKED
IN UNDER THE NAME
J. SIMON, HE'D
GONE MISSING.

HE WAS
LAST SEEN
AT THE BEACH.
GETTING A
SUNTAN.

MAYBE HE
JUST WENT
UNDERGROUND
AGAIN. CAUGHT
YOU LOOKING
AT HIM.

THERE WERE
FOOTPRINTS IN
THE SAND. I HAD
PICTURES OF
THEM SENT
TO ME.

ONE SET
OF TRACKS
SHOWS ABDUL
RUNNING.

THE
OTHER SET,
WHICH IS WALKING
AFTER ABDUL,
MATCHES THE
MANHUNTER.

JESUS
#~\$%&@
CHRIST! IT'S
#~\$%&@
BROKEN!

BOTH
SETS OF
TRACKS WENT
INTO THE WATER.
THE **BODY** HAS
NOT BEEN
FOUND.





YES. A REQUEST.

I WOULD LIKE TO BORROW THIS. HE WILL BE **ARMED**. SO SHALL I.



THAT'S THE **BIGGEST** DIAMOND IN THE WORLD. I SOLD MY **SOUL** FOR THAT ONE.

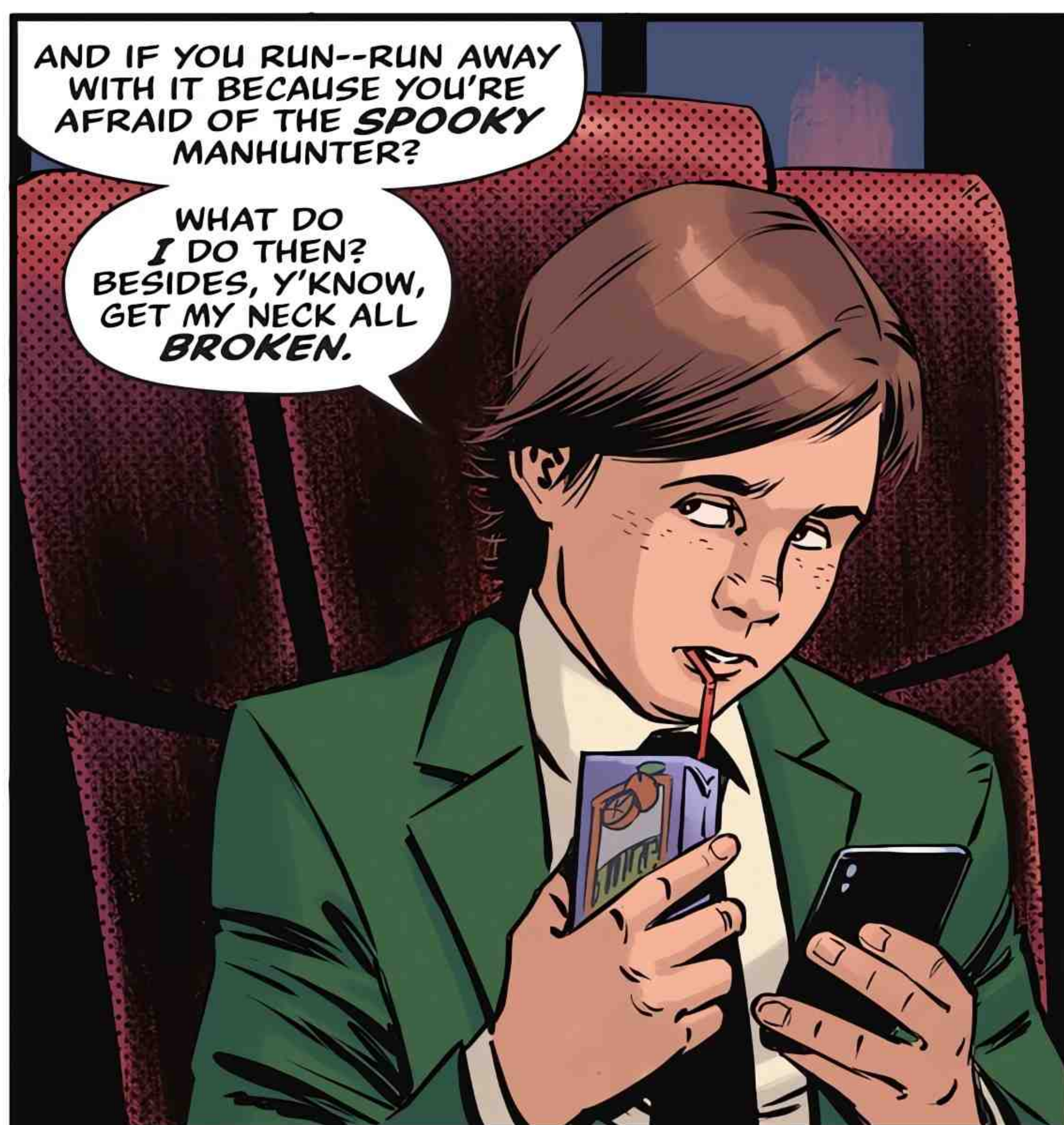
IT'S ONE OF THE FEW THINGS I KNOW ARE WORTH MORE THAN THE TOO MUCH I'VE **ALREADY** PAID YOU.

DO I **LOOK** LIKE A #ΠØÇ%?



IF *I* WIN, YOU WILL LIVE. IF I DIE, *YOU* WILL DIE.

HOW MUCH IS *THAT* WORTH?



AND IF YOU RUN--RUN AWAY WITH IT BECAUSE YOU'RE AFRAID OF THE **SPOOKY** MANHUNTER?

WHAT DO *I* DO THEN? BESIDES, Y'KNOW, GET MY NECK ALL **BROKEN**.



YOU THINK I'M HERE FOR THE **MONEY**.

I THOUGHT THAT ONCE TOO. I WAS **NAIVE**.

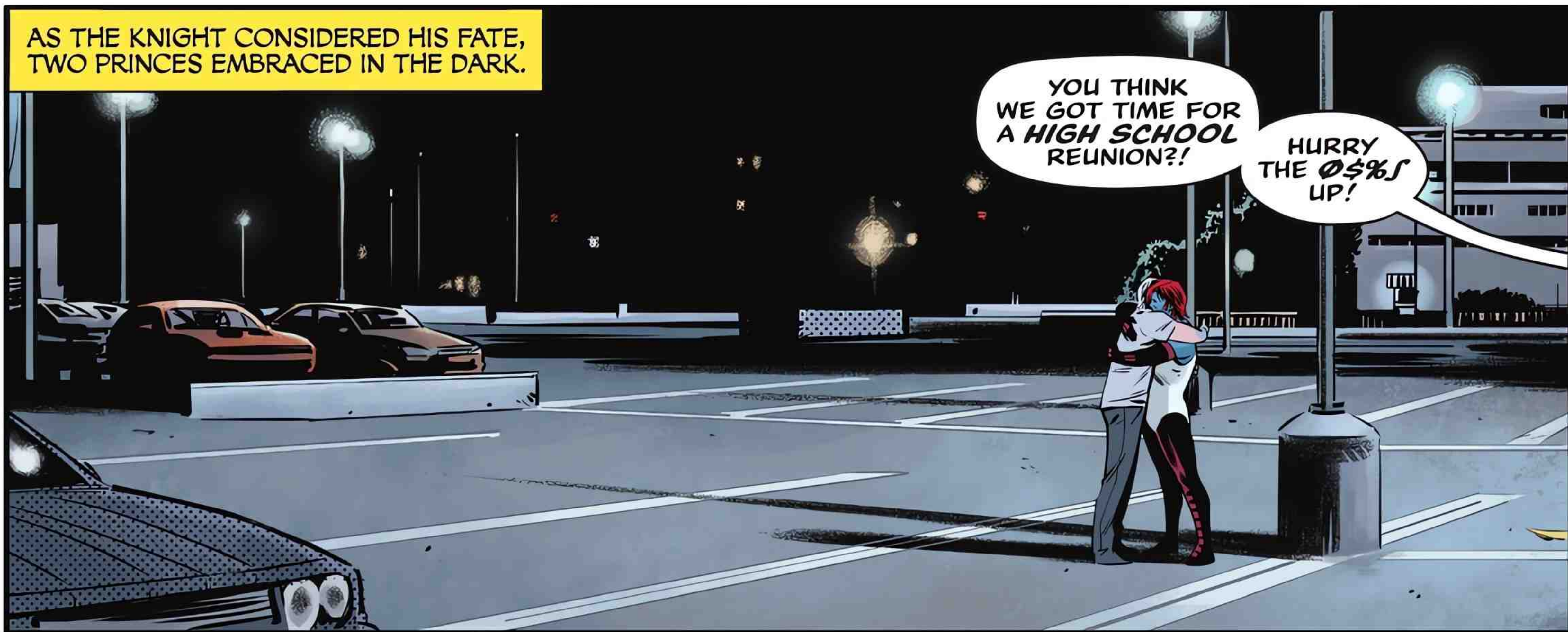
I KNOW NOW THE MONEY IS **INSIGNIFICANT**. EVERYTHING IS... WORTHLESS. EXCEPT...



...I AM HERE FOR **HIM**.

I HAVE **ALWAYS** BEEN HERE FOR HIM.

AS THE KNIGHT CONSIDERED HIS FATE,
TWO PRINCES EMBRACED IN THE DARK.



YOU THINK
WE GOT TIME FOR
A *HIGH SCHOOL*
REUNION?!

HURRY
THE *0\$%\$*
UP!

A CARRIAGE AWAITED THEM,
PREPARED TO DASH THE TWO
NOBLES TO SANCTUARY.



THANK
YOU.

SORRY IT
TOOK SO LONG.
I WOULD'VE...
W...

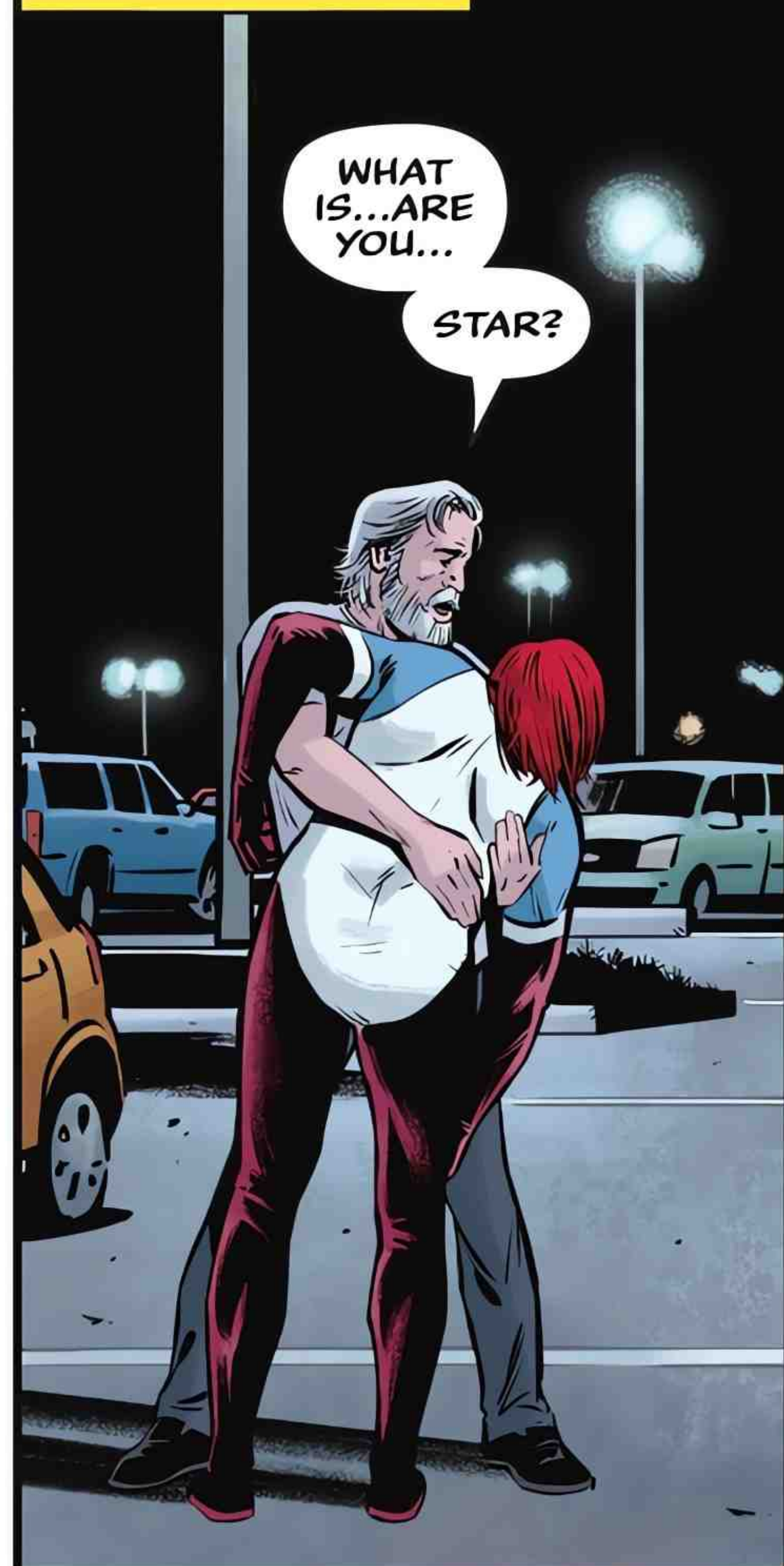
FOR THE LOCAL CONSTABLE WAS
AT THAT VERY MOMENT GATHERING
HIS WITS AND READING HIMSELF
TO PURSUE THE WAYWARD PAIR AND
ONCE AGAIN SNATCH AWAY THEIR
FREEDOM.



I...

STAR!

DESPITE THAT THREAT,
THE JUST-FREED PRINCE
HESITATED TO FLEE.



WHAT
IS...ARE
YOU...

STAR?

FOR THE POOR HEALTH OF HIS DEAR
COMRADE LEFT HIM IN A STATE OF
PARALYZED DISQUIET.



WHAT'S
WRONG
WITH
HIM?!



DUDE, HE'S **BEEN** THAT WAY! IT'S A WHOLE #~£%∞#@ THING! WE DON'T HAVE **TIME!**

GET THE Ø\$%J IN!



WHAT DO YOU **MEAN** HE'S BEEN THAT WAY?!

YOU JUST TOLD ME INSIDE HE WAS **FINE!**



WHAT THE Ø\$%J DO YOU THINK "WE DON'T HAVE TIME" MEANS?

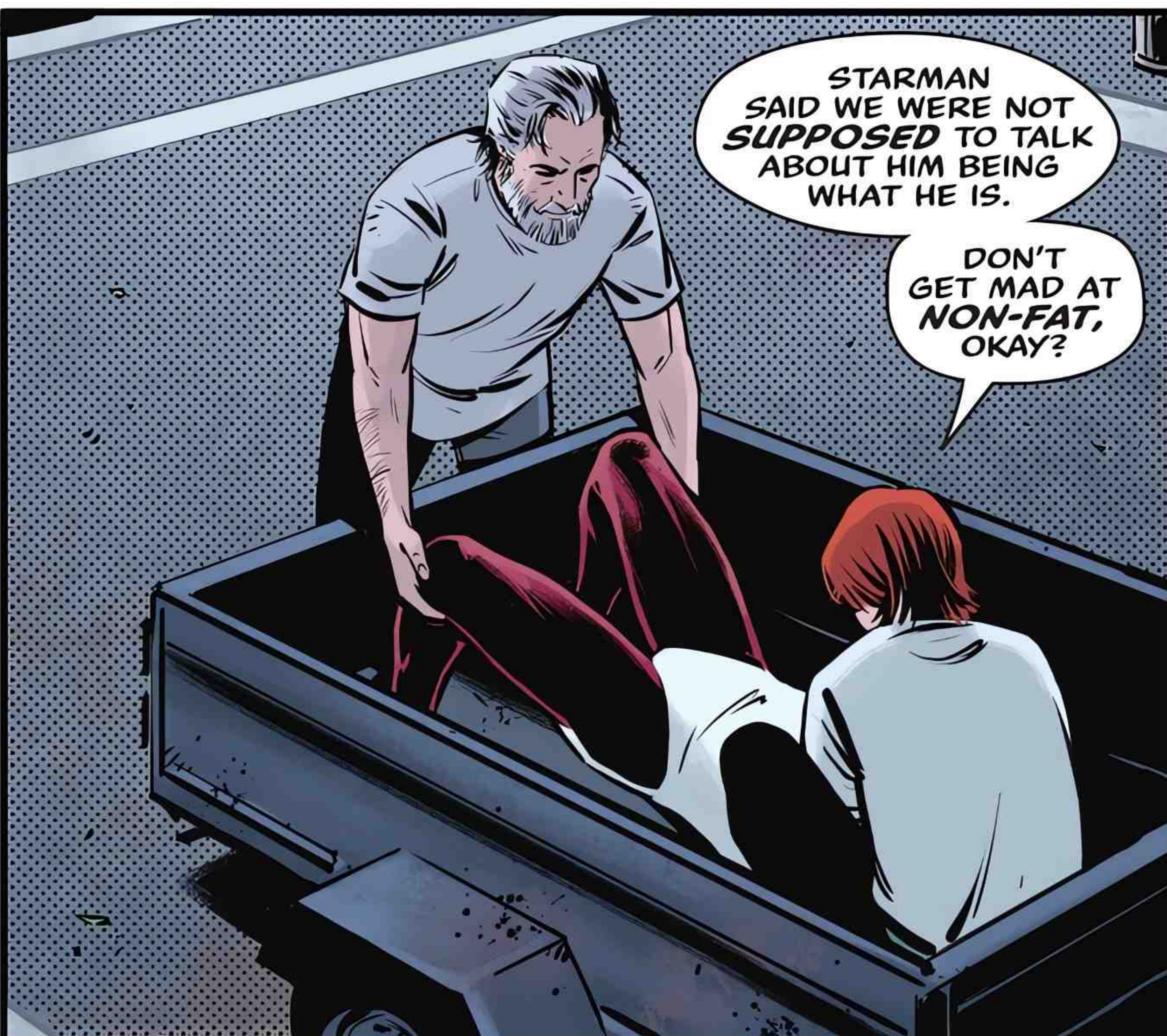
WE'RE GOING TO HAVE A **CONVERSATION** NOW? #~£%∞#@ COOPER IS STUPID AS **DIRT**, BUT @#£\$, EVEN **DIRT** MOVES IF IT'S KICKED.

AND WE JUST KICKED SOME #~£%∞#@ **DIRT!**



IF HE COMES, I WILL DEAL WITH IT.

NOW YOU TELL ME ABOUT WHAT'S WRONG WITH MY FRIEND.



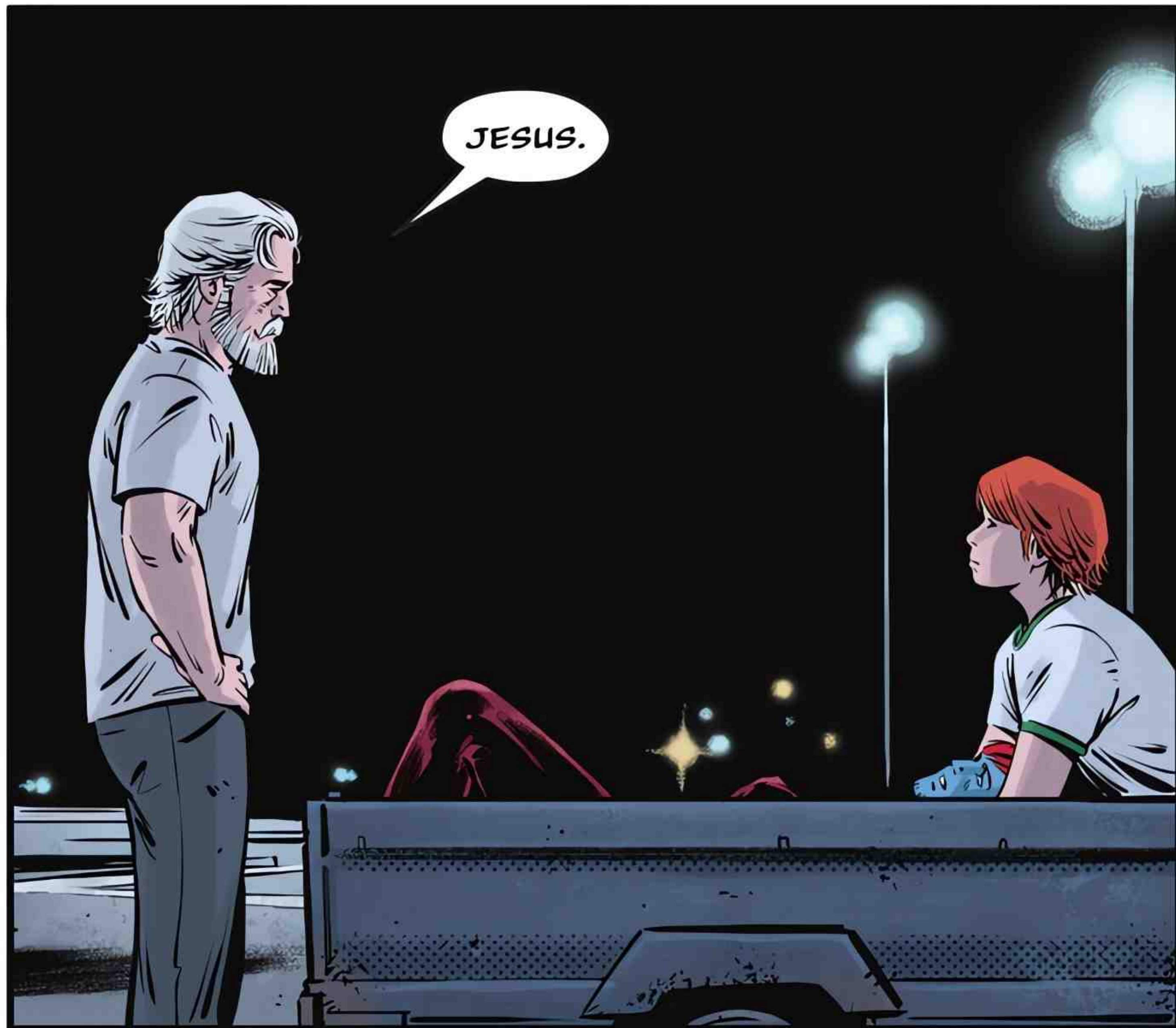
STARMAN SAID WE WERE NOT **SUPPOSED** TO TALK ABOUT HIM BEING WHAT HE IS.

DON'T GET MAD AT **NON-FAT**, OKAY?

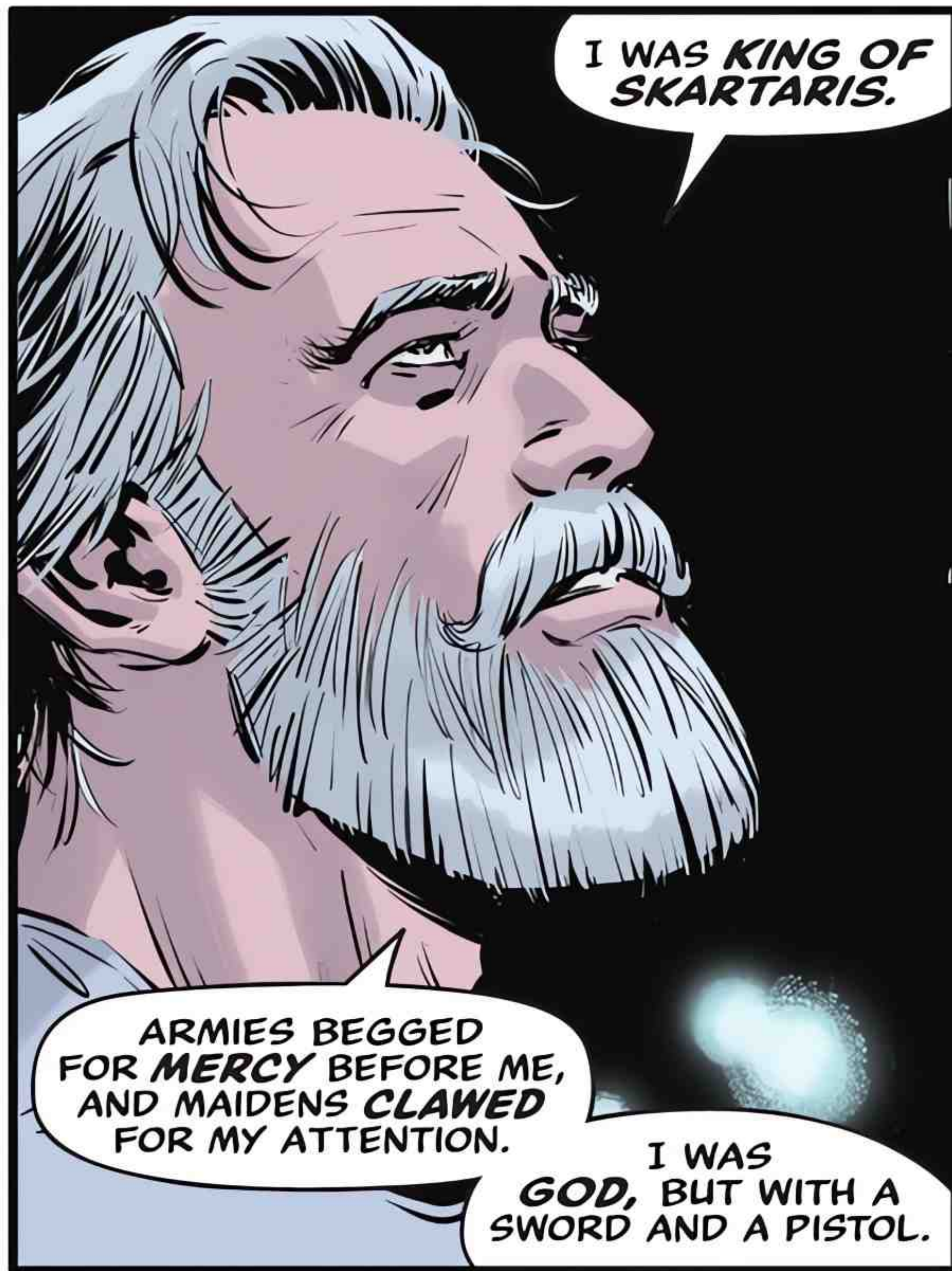


YOU Ø\$%J-UP! COOPER IS GOING TO GET LADY COP TO RUIN MY #~£%∞#@ **LIFE!**

GET YOUR OLD @%# IN THE #~£%∞#@ **CAR!**



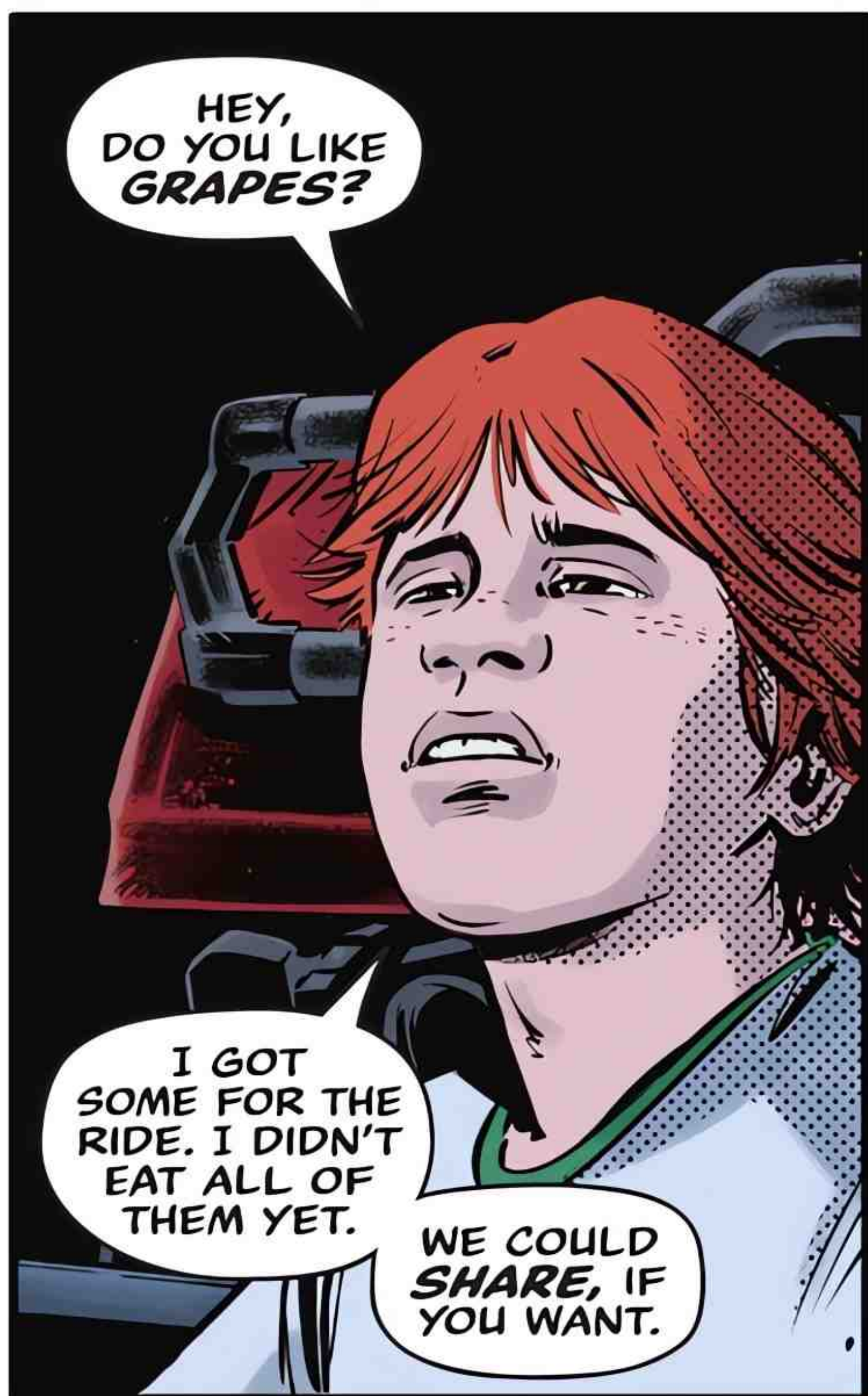
JESUS.



I WAS KING OF SKARTARIS.

ARMIES BEGGED FOR **MERCY** BEFORE ME, AND MAIDENS **CLAWED** FOR MY ATTENTION.

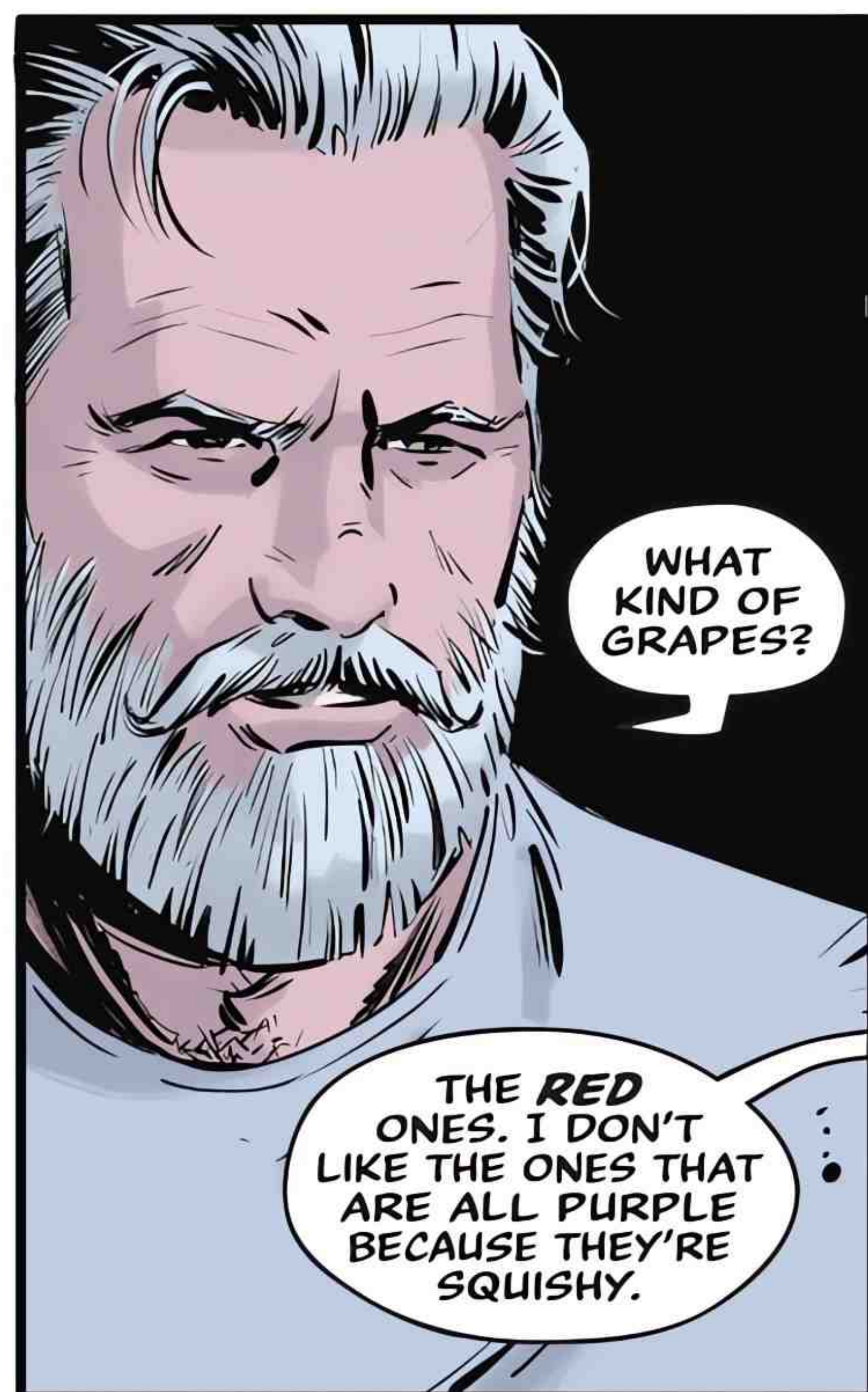
I WAS **GOD**, BUT WITH A SWORD AND A PISTOL.



HEY, DO YOU LIKE **GRAPES**?

I GOT SOME FOR THE RIDE. I DIDN'T EAT ALL OF THEM YET.

WE COULD **SHARE**, IF YOU WANT.



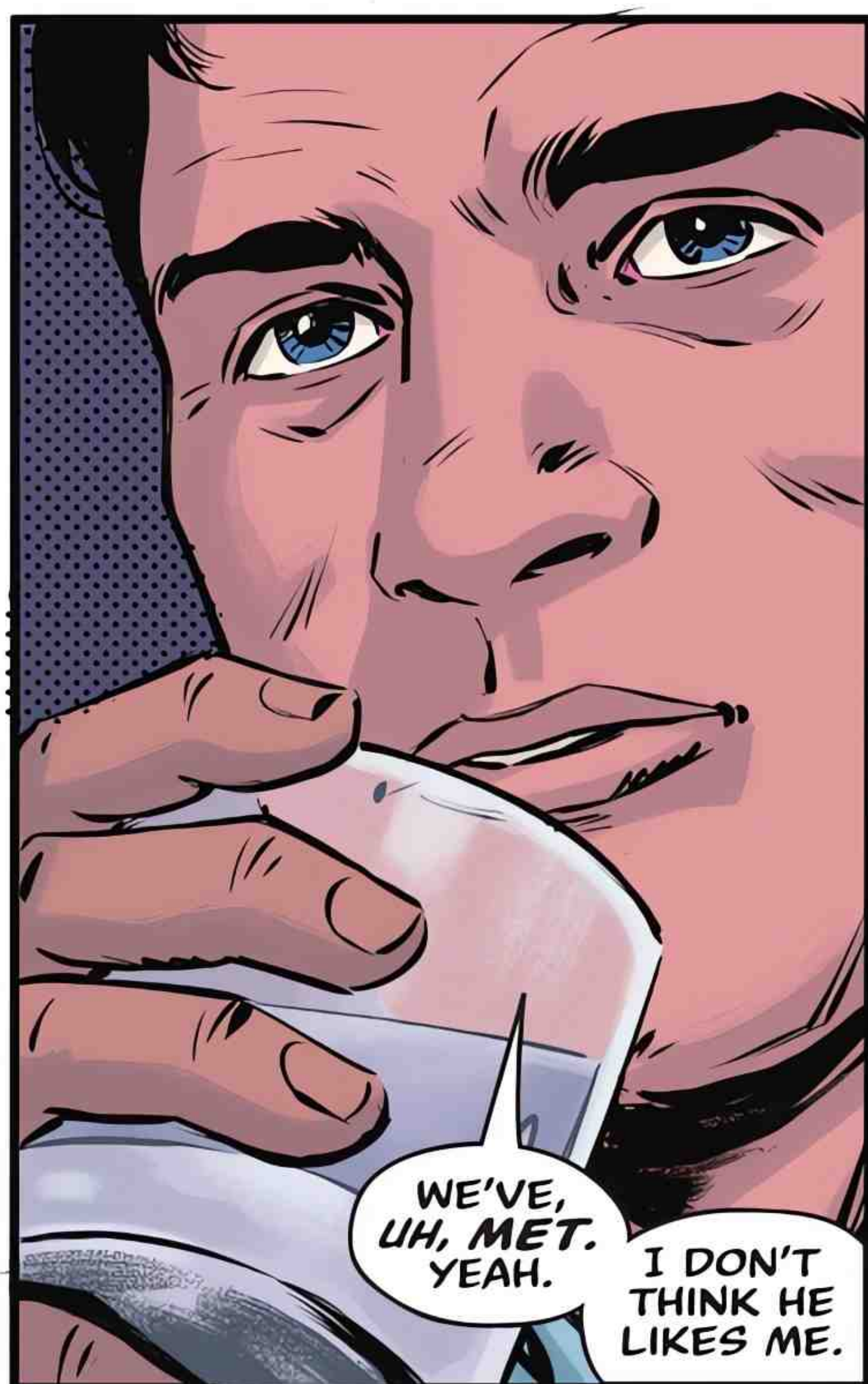
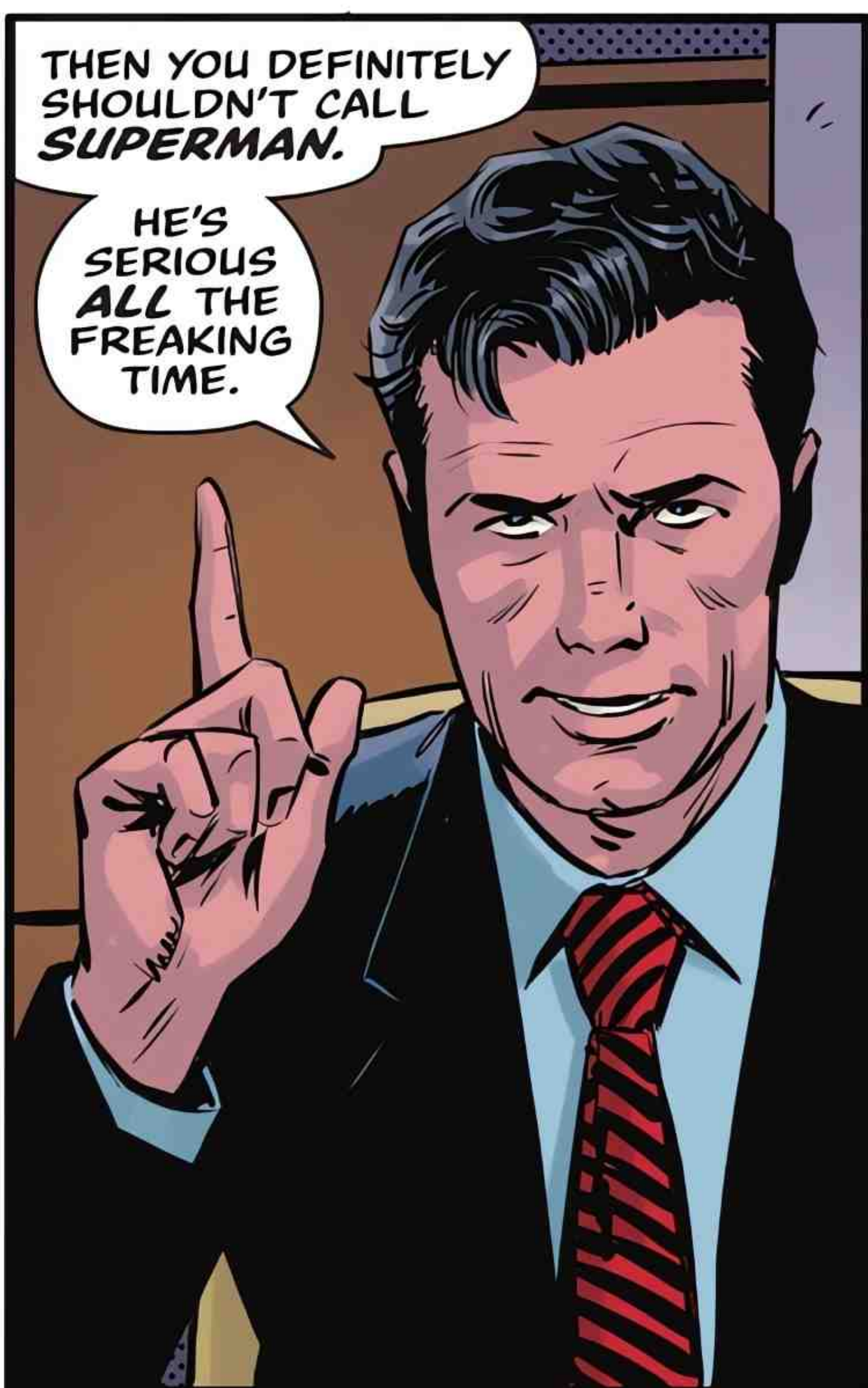
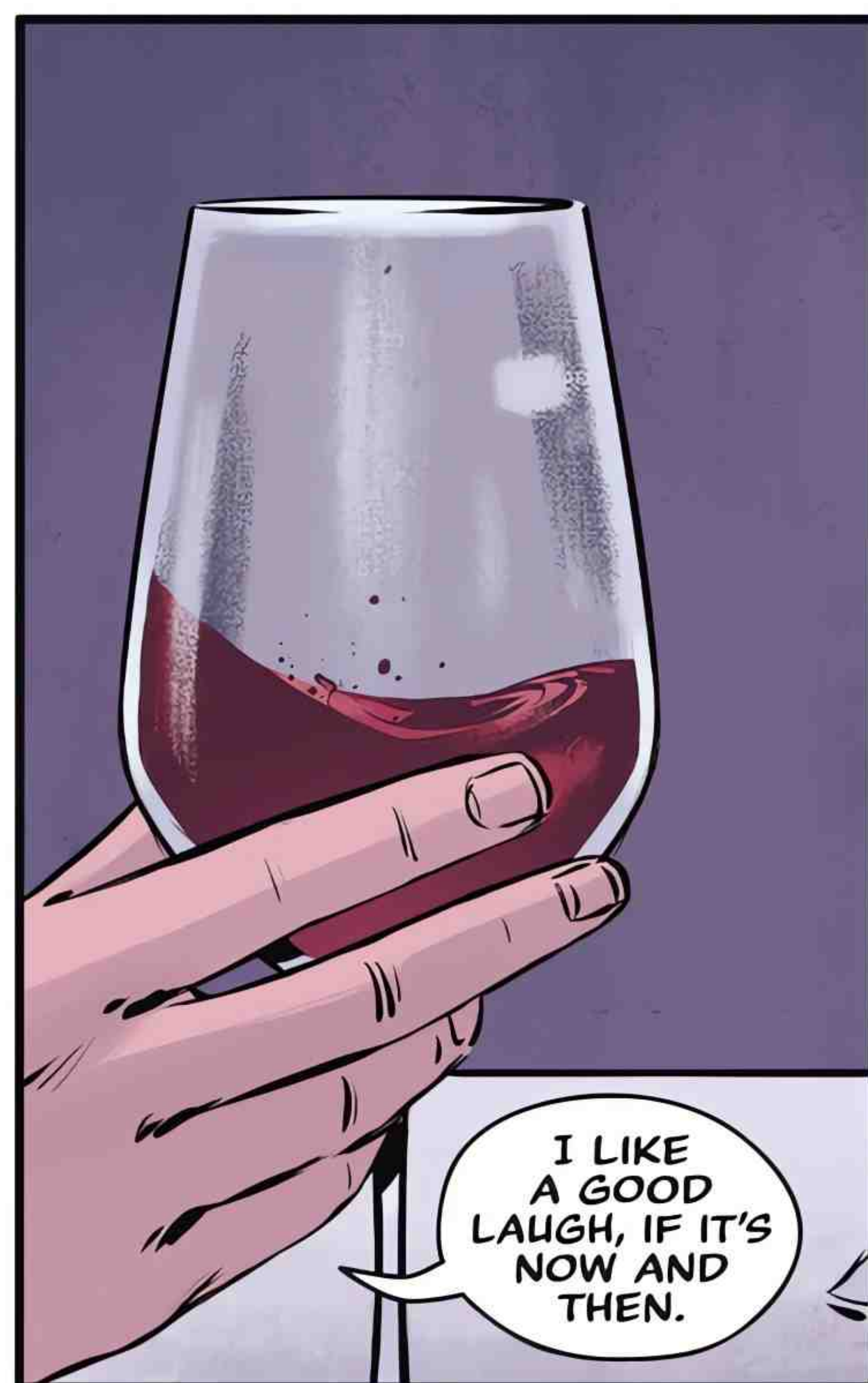
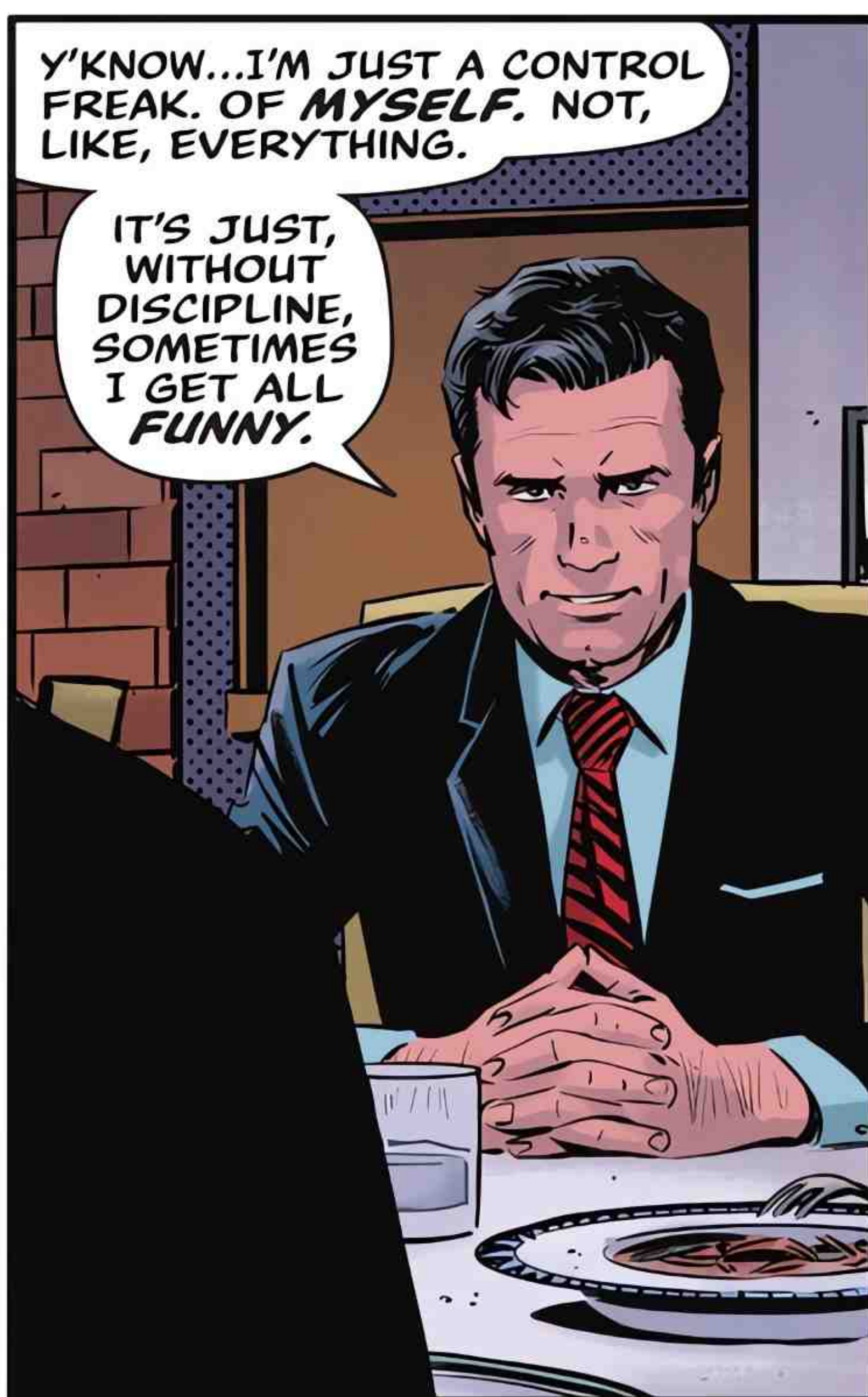
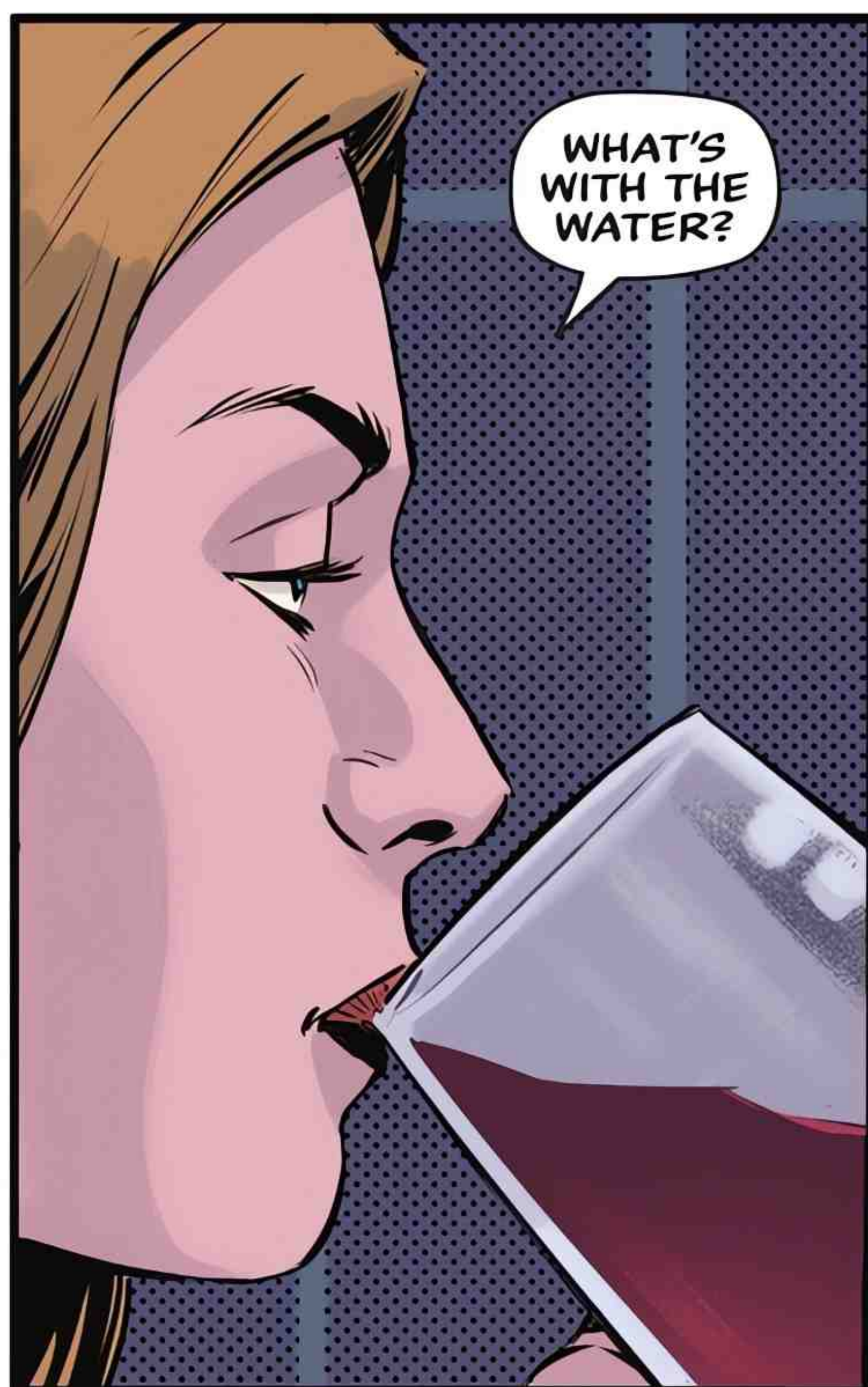
WHAT KIND OF **GRAPES**?

THE **RED** ONES. I DON'T LIKE THE ONES THAT ARE ALL **PURPLE** BECAUSE THEY'RE **SQUISHY**.



YEAH, OKAY.

RED'S GOOD.





"WELL, DON'T FEEL BAD ABOUT THAT."

"HE DOESN'T LIKE ME EITHER."



SUPERMAN...

"IN COLLEGE--MAYBE YOU HEARD ABOUT IT, IT WAS--SOME PEOPLE KNOW IT."

"A GUY BROKE INTO THIS PARTY AT MY DORM. HE HAD A KNIFE. AND HE STARTED DOING WHAT PEOPLE, Y'KNOW, DO WITH KNIVES SOMETIMES."



SUPERMAN... PLEASE...

"I DOVE UNDER THE BED. I CAN'T TELL YOU WHY, JUST WHERE I WENT, AND HE KEPT DOING...IT ALL OUT THERE."

"AND I HEARD THEM. AND THAT GUY TOO. HE WAS LAUGHING AND SOMETIMES HE WAS EXPLAINING, I DON'T KNOW."

"I SAW SOME OF IT. I SAW THEIR FEET. I SAW THEM FALL. I SAW HIM DROP A CARD, A PLAYING CARD, AN ACE OF SPADES, JUST BEFORE HE LEFT."



"AND THE, UH, WHOLE TIME OR SOME OF THE TIME, I DON'T REMEMBER, I ASKED, YOU KNOW, FOR HELP, FOR SUPERMAN TO COME AND..."

"HE'S SUPPOSED TO HEAR YOU, RIGHT? SUPER-EARS."

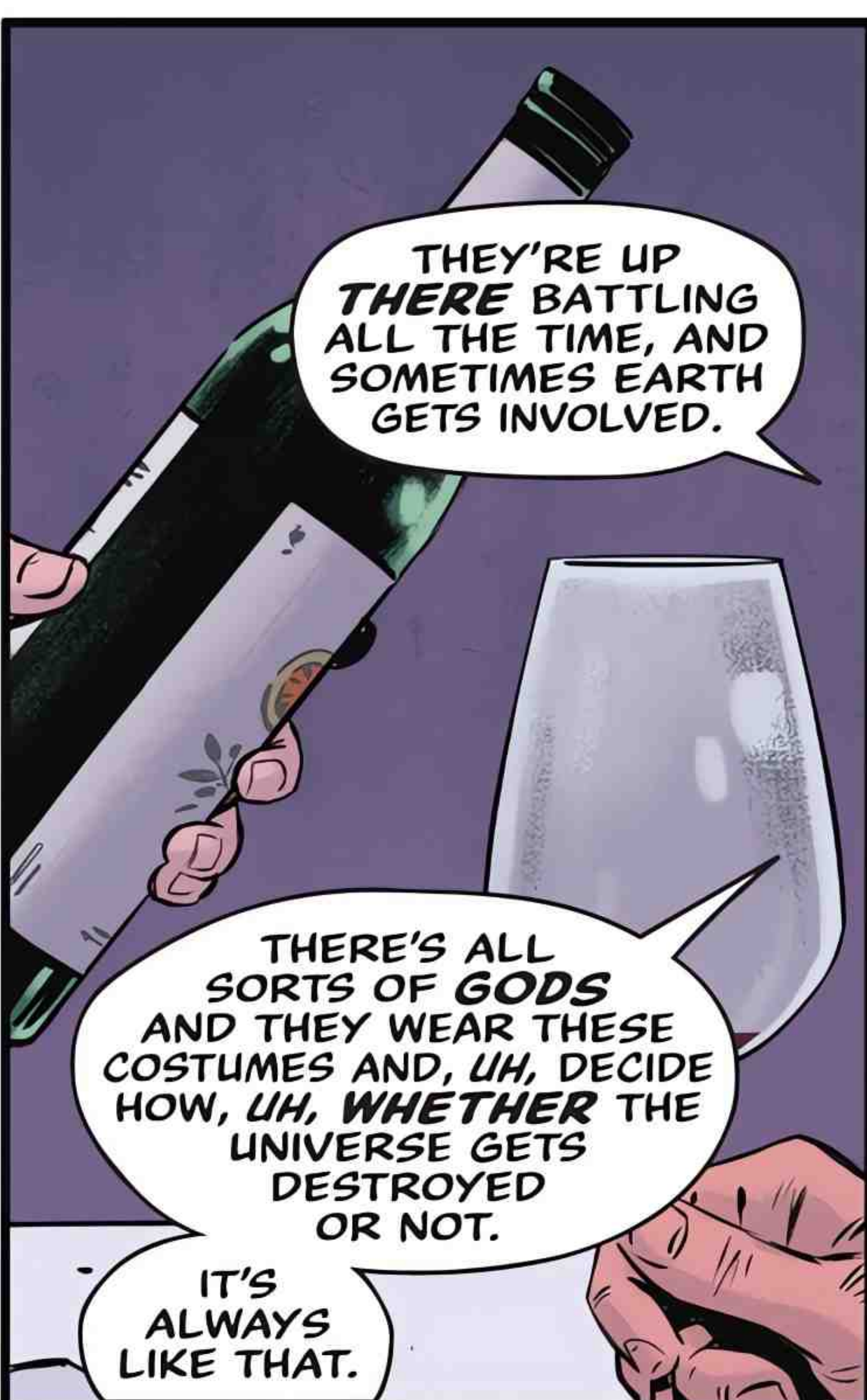
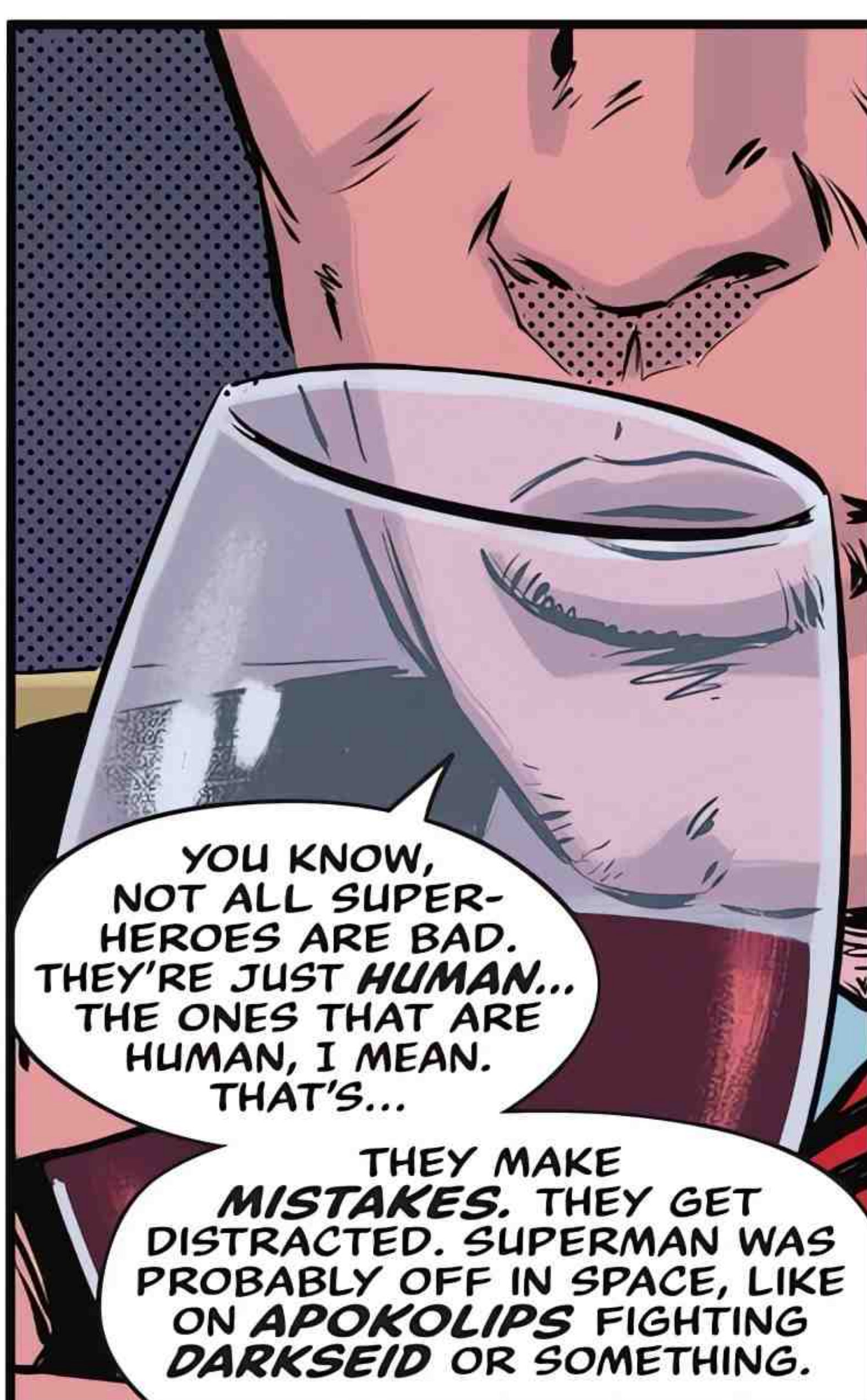
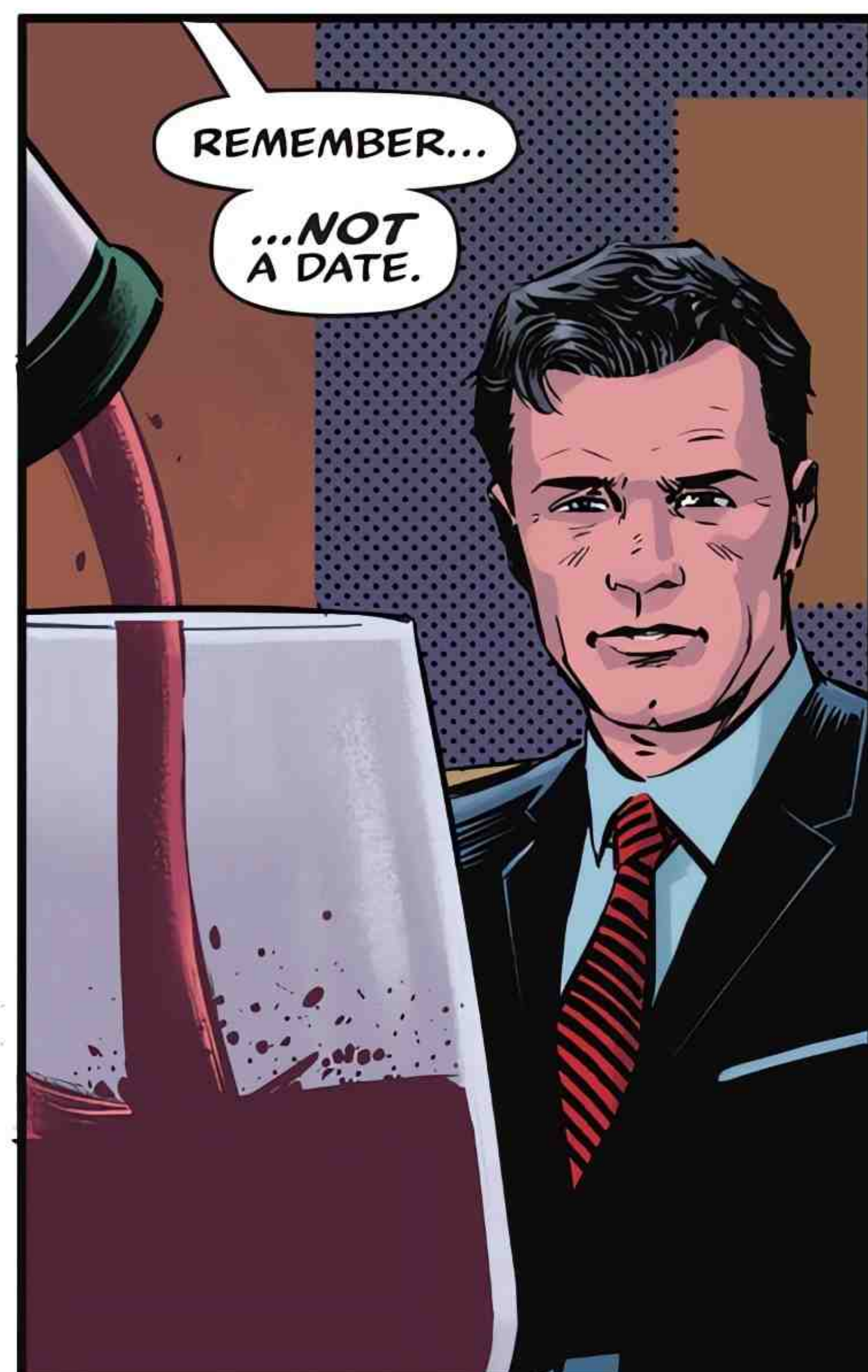
"BUT IN THE END, I WAS THE ONLY ONE WHO...WHO WAS LEFT."

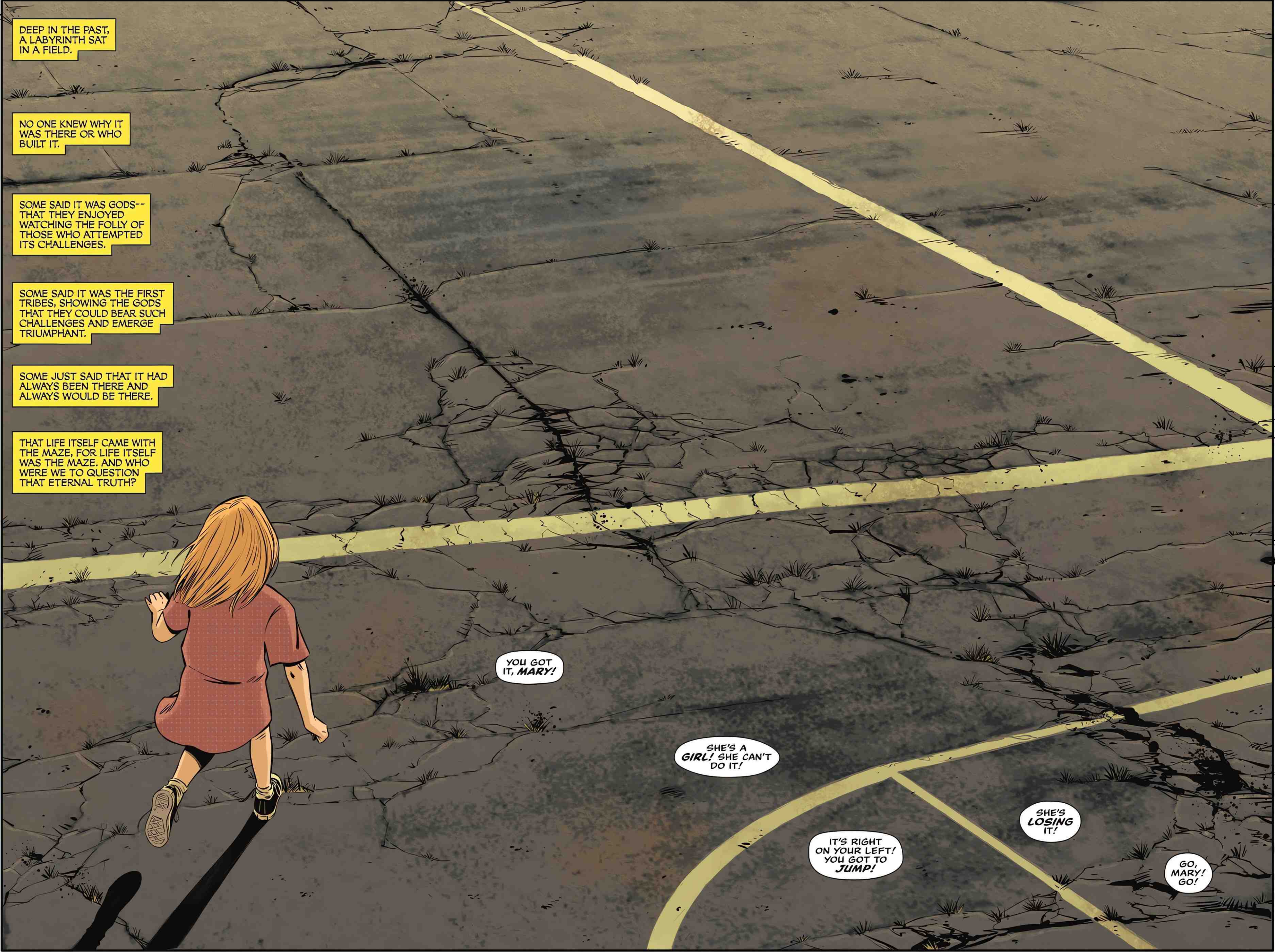


"I ALWAYS WANTED TO BE SUPERMAN WHEN I GREW UP. I MEAN, NOT, LIKE, SUPERMAN. LIKE, LADY SUPERMAN OR SOMETHING."

"THAT DAY I DECIDED TO BE A COP."

"FIGURED MAYBE I COULDN'T FLY AND SHOOT EYE LASERS, BUT AT LEAST I COULD HEAR MY OWN VOICE."





DEEP IN THE PAST,
A LABYRINTH SAT
IN A FIELD.

NO ONE KNEW WHY IT
WAS THERE OR WHO
BUILT IT.

SOME SAID IT WAS GODS--
THAT THEY ENJOYED
WATCHING THE FOLLY OF
THOSE WHO ATTEMPTED
ITS CHALLENGES.

SOME SAID IT WAS THE FIRST
TRIBES, SHOWING THE GODS
THAT THEY COULD BEAR SUCH
CHALLENGES AND EMERGE
TRIUMPHANT.

SOME JUST SAID THAT IT HAD
ALWAYS BEEN THERE AND
ALWAYS WOULD BE THERE.

THAT LIFE ITSELF CAME WITH
THE MAZE, FOR LIFE ITSELF
WAS THE MAZE. AND WHO
WERE WE TO QUESTION
THAT ETERNAL TRUTH?

YOU GOT
IT, *MARY!*

SHE'S A
GIRL! SHE CAN'T
DO IT!

IT'S RIGHT
ON YOUR LEFT!
YOU GOT TO
JUMP!

SHE'S
LOSING
IT!

GO,
MARY!
GO!



"THE BOYS PUSHED TO THE FRONT. SOME MADE IT AND SOME DIDN'T MAKE IT."

"IT MEANT THAT MARY HAD TO GO LAST."



"IT WAS A FUN GAME AT THE TIME. WE WERE ALL LAUGHING AND TEASING."

"WHO'S GOING TO LAND? WHO'S GOING TO FALL?"



"WHO'S GOING TO HELL?"

"WHO'S GOING TO HEAVEN?"



"MARY WAS DOING REAL WELL. WE THOUGHT SHE'D END UP ON THE GREEN TEAM, IN ALL HONESTY. SHE USUALLY DID."

"BUT THEN SHE DID THIS ONE JUMP AND I GUESS SHE MISJUDGED IT AND..."

"...SHE JUST FELL OUT OF LINE."

"I WAS REALLY ROOTING FOR HER. BUT SOMETIMES WHAT YOU WANT DOESN'T--Y'KNOW... IT DOESN'T MATTER WHAT YOU'RE CHEERING FOR..."



"YOU GET TO THE END AND THERE'S THE SCORE."

"WE STOOD AT THE SIDELINES. WE USED TO BE ONE GROUP OF FRIENDS. REALLY CLOSE."

"AND AT LEAST FOR ME, I THOUGHT THAT WAS KIND OF FOREVER."

"THE GREEN TEAM, THE OUTSIDERS. THAT WAS JUST UNTIL THE NEXT TIME WE GOT OUT THERE."

YOU, **ALL** OF YOU, PERFORMED **SO** WELL AND SHOULD BE **EXTREMELY** PROUD.

YOU PLAYED **MAGNIFICENTLY**.

THE GREEN TEAM PLAYED GOOD! THE OUTSIDERS DIDN'T!

WHAT DO WE GET?!

IT'S JUST **RANDOM!** ANY OF YOU COULD'VE TRIPPED TOO!

DON'T THINK YOU'RE **SPECIAL!**

CHILDREN, THERE'S NO NEED TO **FUSS**.

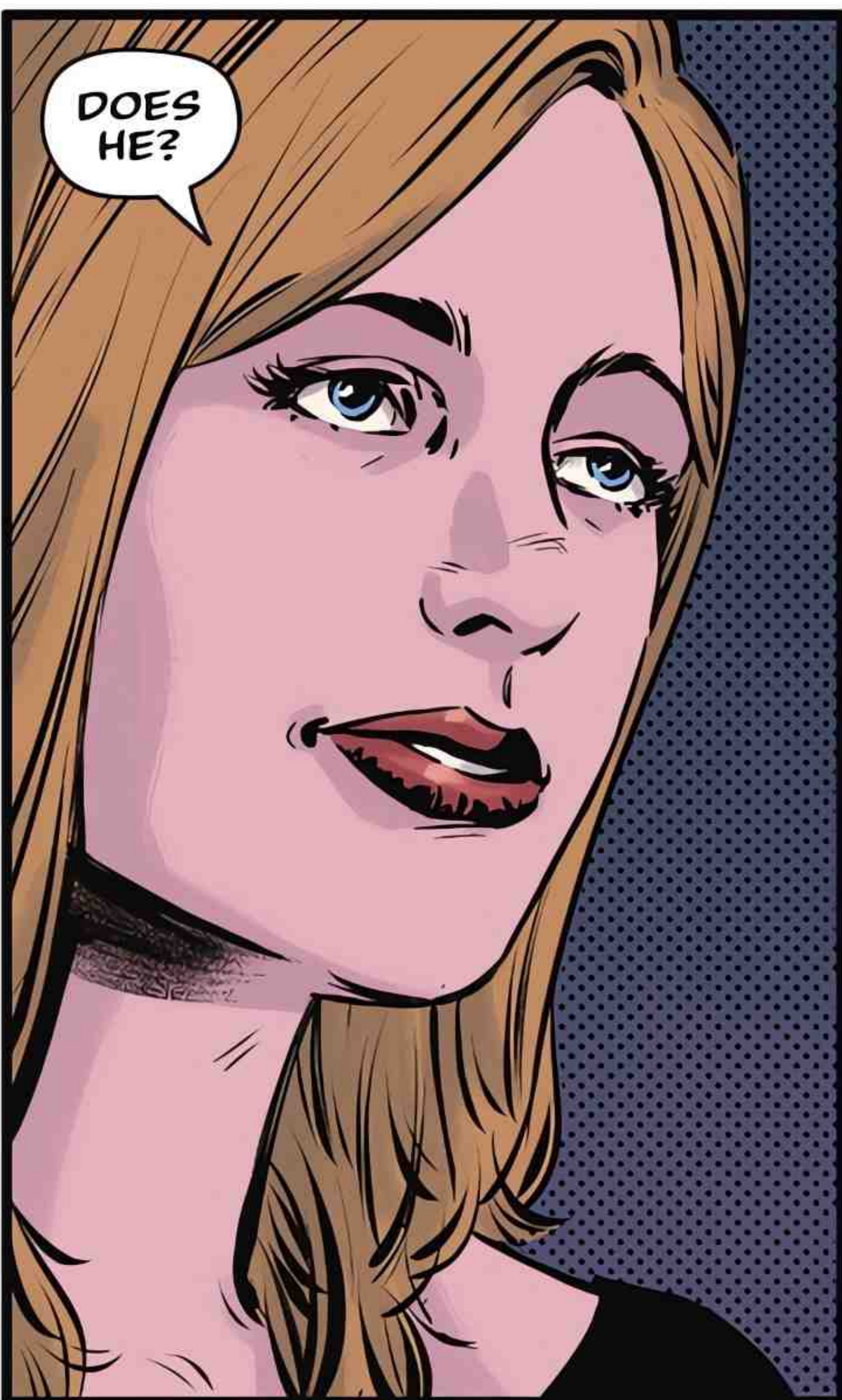
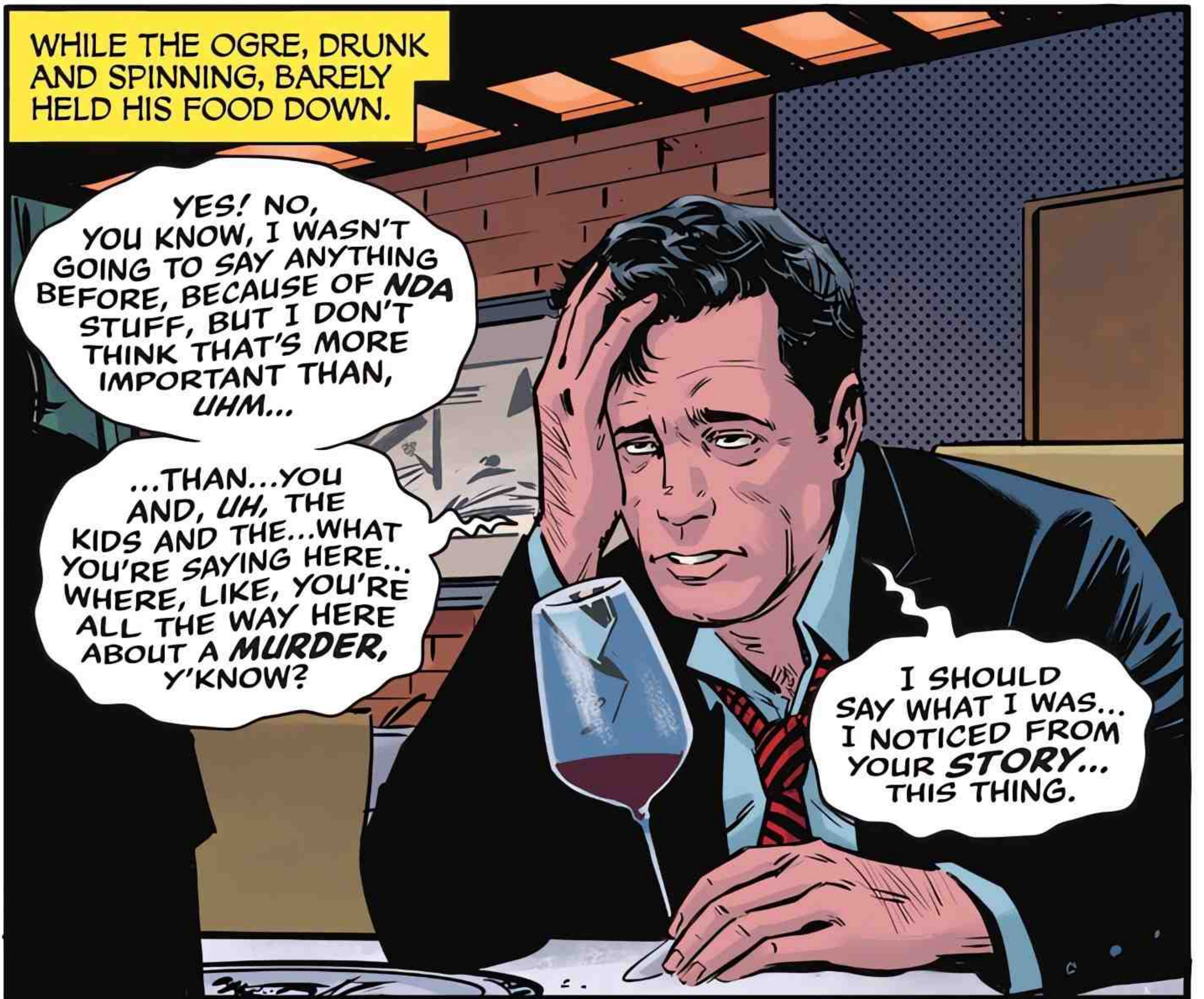
YOU HAVE MADE YOUR EFFORT. YOU HAVE BEEN JUDGED.

LET US NOW SORT OUT YOUR **REMUNERATION**.

BACK IN THE TAVERN, THE PRINCESS HELD HER PEACE.



WHILE THE OGRE, DRUNK AND SPINNING, BARELY HELD HIS FOOD DOWN.

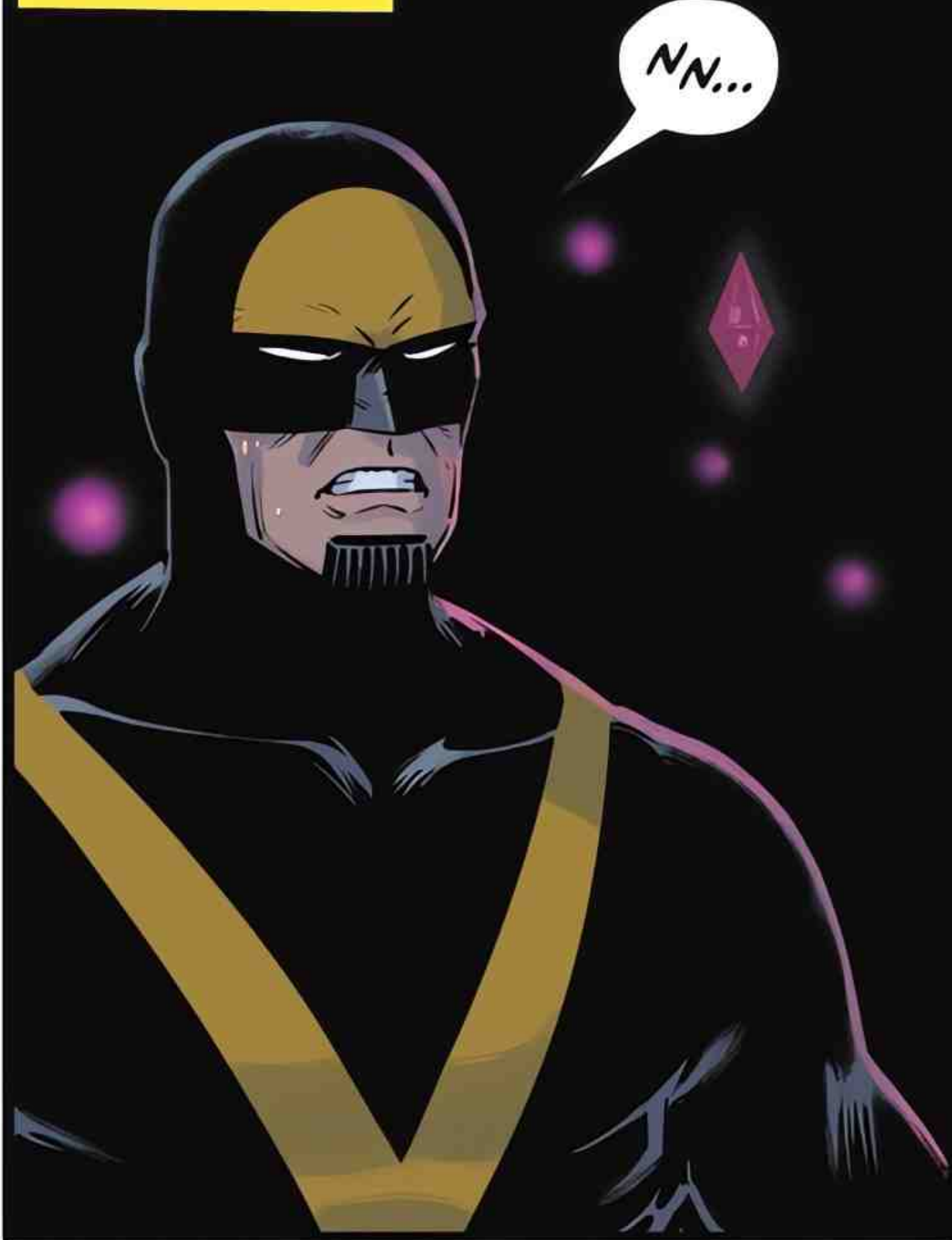




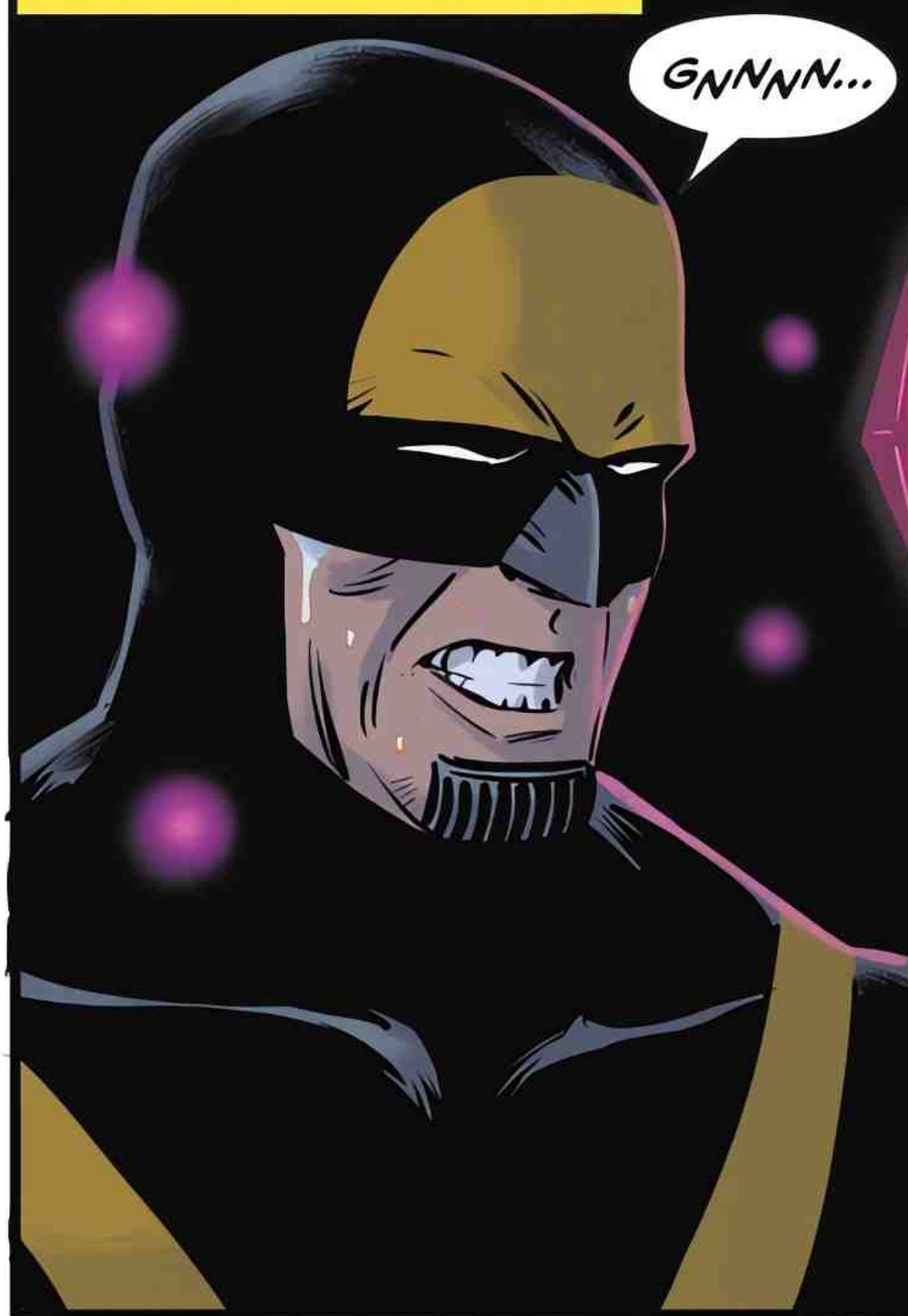
MEANWHILE, AN HOUR'S RIDE AWAY, AT LEAST ON A FAST STEED, A KNIGHT SAT IN A CASTLE AND PREPARED FOR BATTLE.



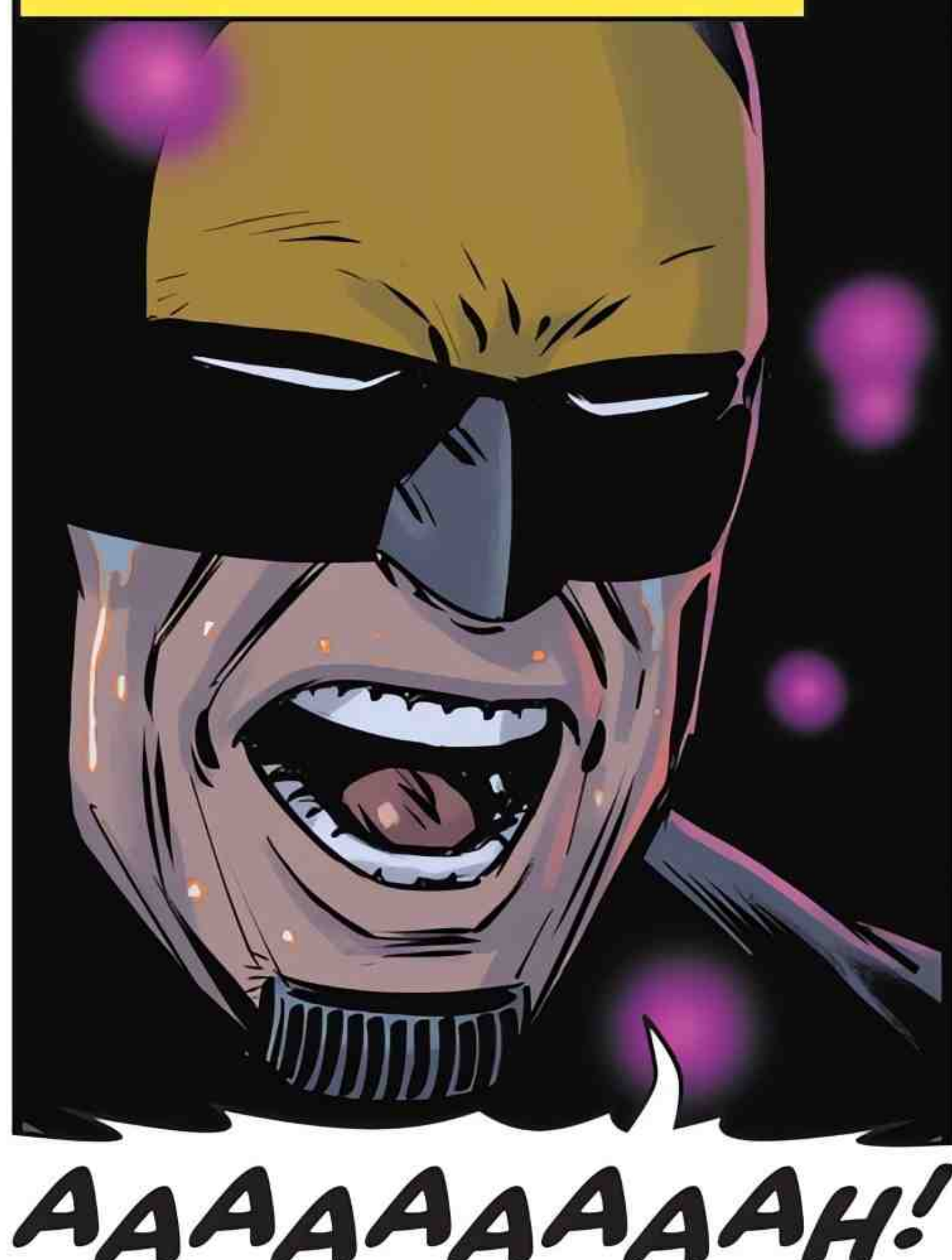
IT IS WELL- KNOWN THAT A KNIGHT MUST OBTAIN THREE SACRED REQUIREMENTS IF HE HOPES TO CONQUER ANY WORTHY FOE.



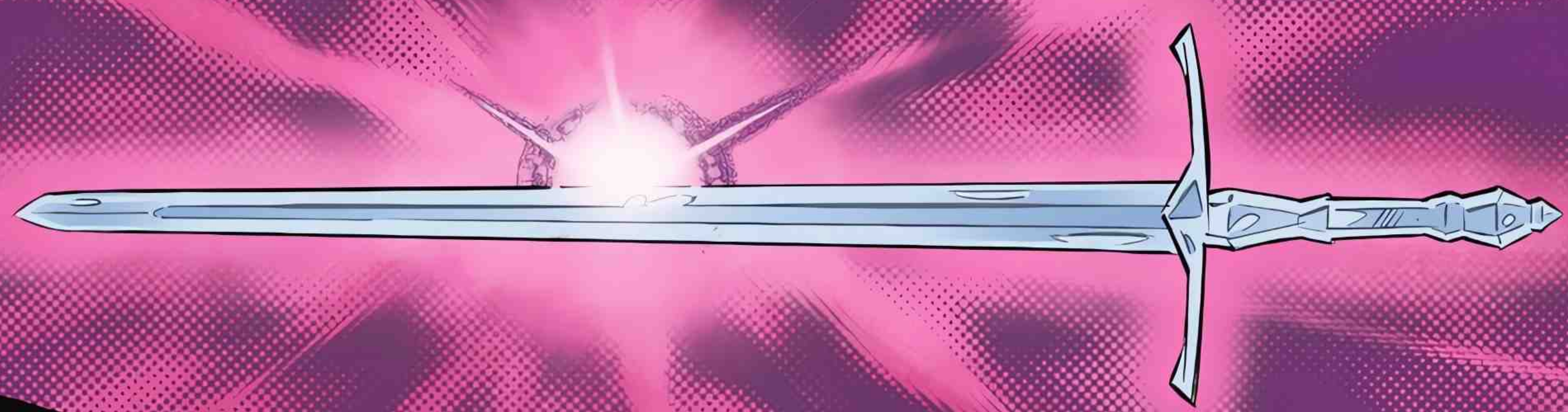
HE NEEDS THE HONED SKILL OF A LIFE OF BITTER COMBAT.



HE NEEDS THE INSTINCTUAL COURAGE ACQUIRED ONLY THROUGH DEDICATION TO A STRICT CODE OF MORALITY AND TEMPERANCE.



AND, OF COURSE, PERHAPS MOST IMPORTANTLY...



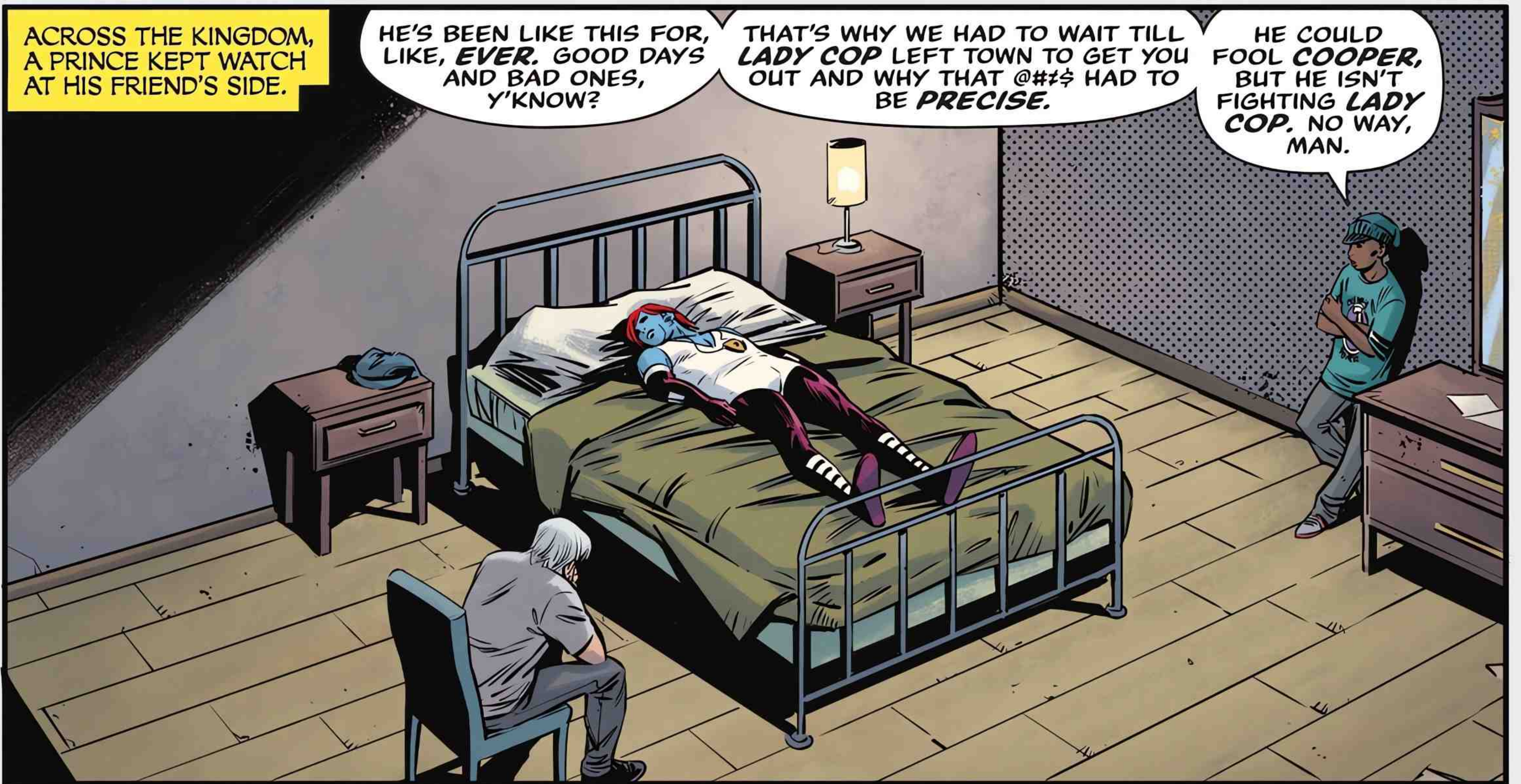
...A GOOD KNIGHT NEEDS A GOOD SWORD.

ACROSS THE KINGDOM,
A PRINCE KEPT WATCH
AT HIS FRIEND'S SIDE.

HE'S BEEN LIKE THIS FOR,
LIKE, **EVER**. GOOD DAYS
AND BAD ONES,
Y'KNOW?

THAT'S WHY WE HAD TO WAIT TILL
LADY COP LEFT TOWN TO GET YOU
OUT AND WHY THAT @#%\$ HAD TO
BE **PRECISE**.

HE COULD
FOOL **COOPER**,
BUT HE ISN'T
FIGHTING **LADY
COP**. NO WAY,
MAN.



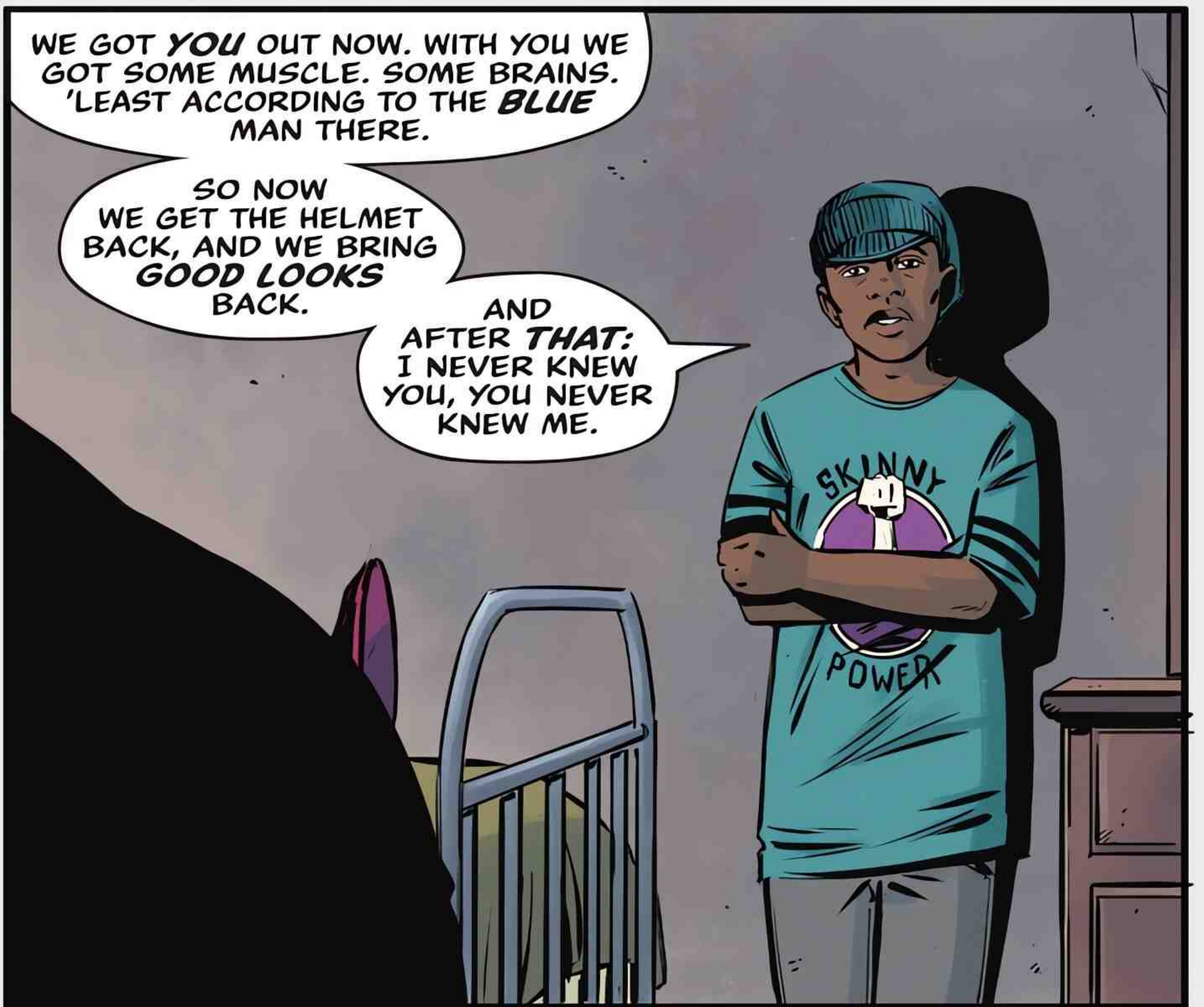
WHAT'S
NEXT?



WE GOT **YOU** OUT NOW. WITH YOU WE
GOT SOME MUSCLE. SOME BRAINS.
'LEAST ACCORDING TO THE **BLUE**
MAN THERE.

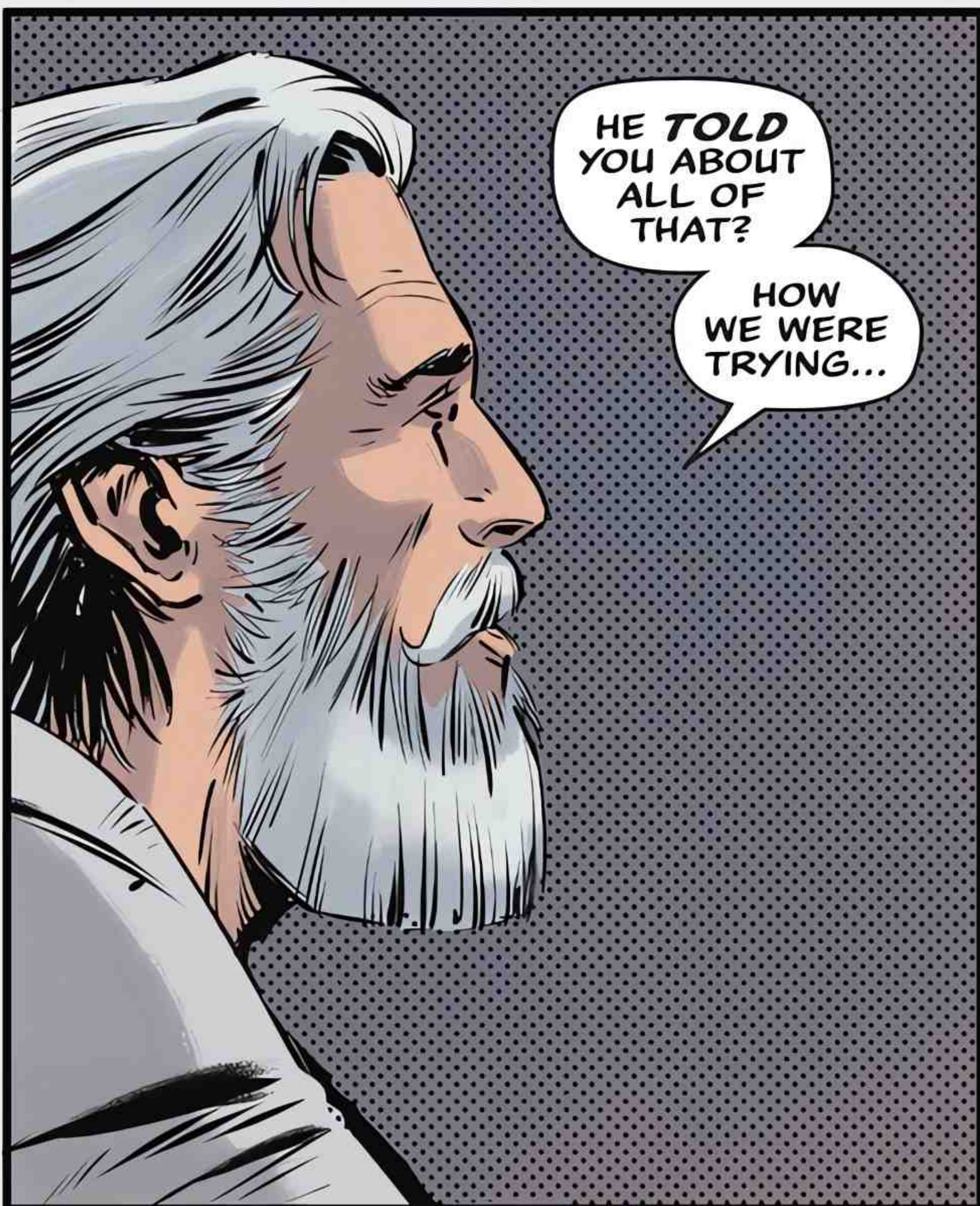
SO NOW
WE GET THE HELMET
BACK, AND WE BRING
GOOD LOOKS
BACK.

AND
AFTER **THAT**:
I NEVER KNEW
YOU, YOU NEVER
KNEW ME.



HE **TOLD**
YOU ABOUT
ALL OF
THAT?

HOW
WE WERE
TRYING...



@#%\$, MAN,
WHY DID YOU
THINK WE DIDN'T
KILL HIM?

WE **NEED**
EACH OTHER,
Y'KNOW?

GOOD
DAYS, BAD
DAYS, THAT'S
THE WAY
IT IS.



WHILE OUR PRINCE SOUGHT A WAY FORWARD, A MONSTER EXECUTED HIS OWN DEVIOUS PLAN.



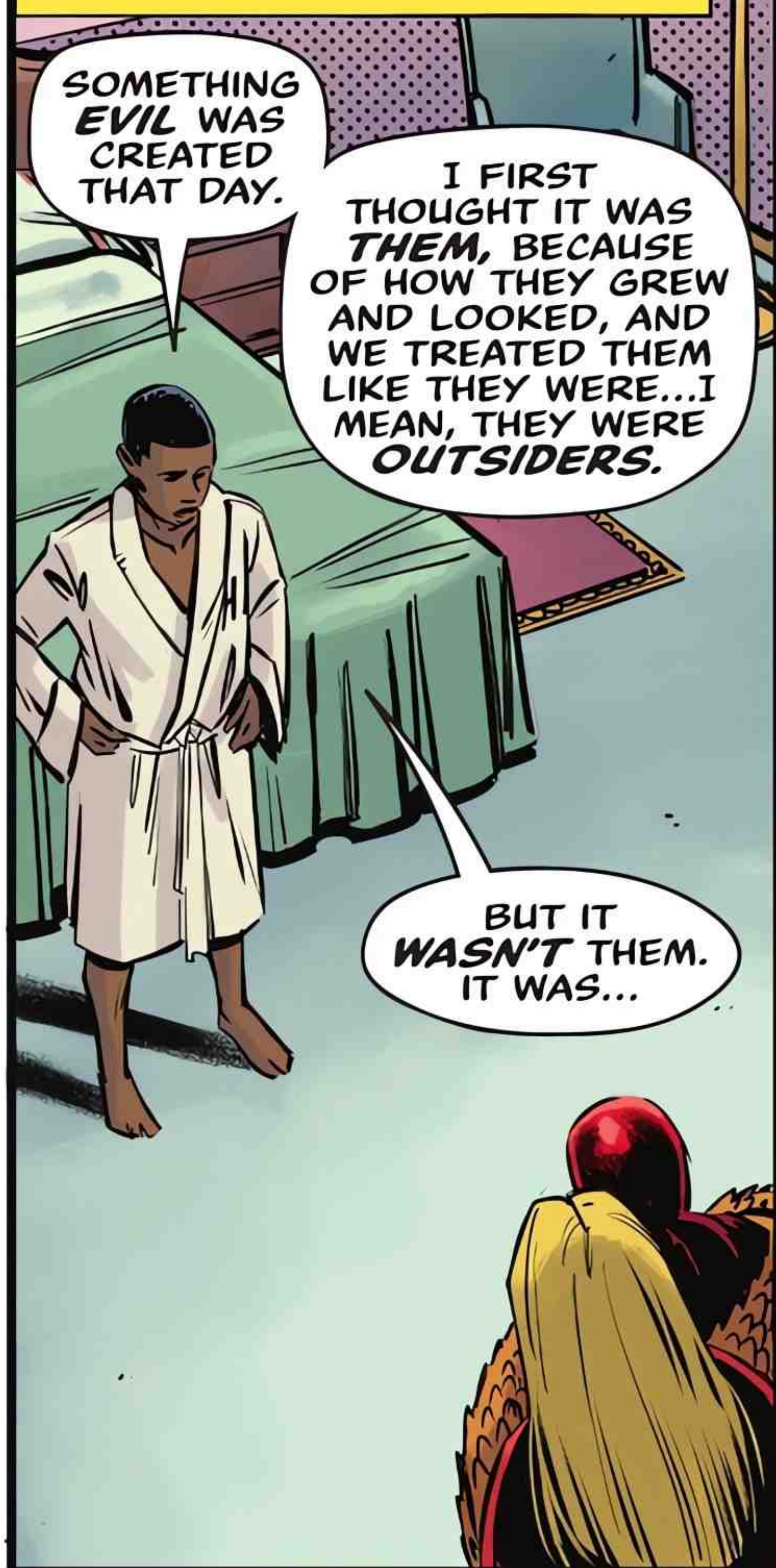
AMAZIN' RONNIE.
HE'S **READY**. GET THE THING.

AS WITH ALL MONSTERS, HE KNEW WELL THE WAYS OF KNIGHTS.



AYE, AYE, CAPTAIN!

HE UNDERSTOOD THAT KNIGHTS DEPENDED ON THEIR EXPERIENCE.



SOMETHING **EVIL** WAS CREATED THAT DAY.

I FIRST THOUGHT IT WAS **THEM**, BECAUSE OF HOW THEY GREW AND LOOKED, AND WE TREATED THEM LIKE THEY WERE... I MEAN, THEY WERE **OUTSIDERS**.

BUT IT **WASN'T** THEM. IT WAS...

THEIR CODE.



LIFE IS **WEIRD**, Y'KNOW?

IT'S LIKE IT SHOULD MAKE **SENSE**, BUT I DON'T KNOW.

YOU DON'T ALWAYS WIN BY WINNING.

AND, OF COURSE, THEIR STEEL.



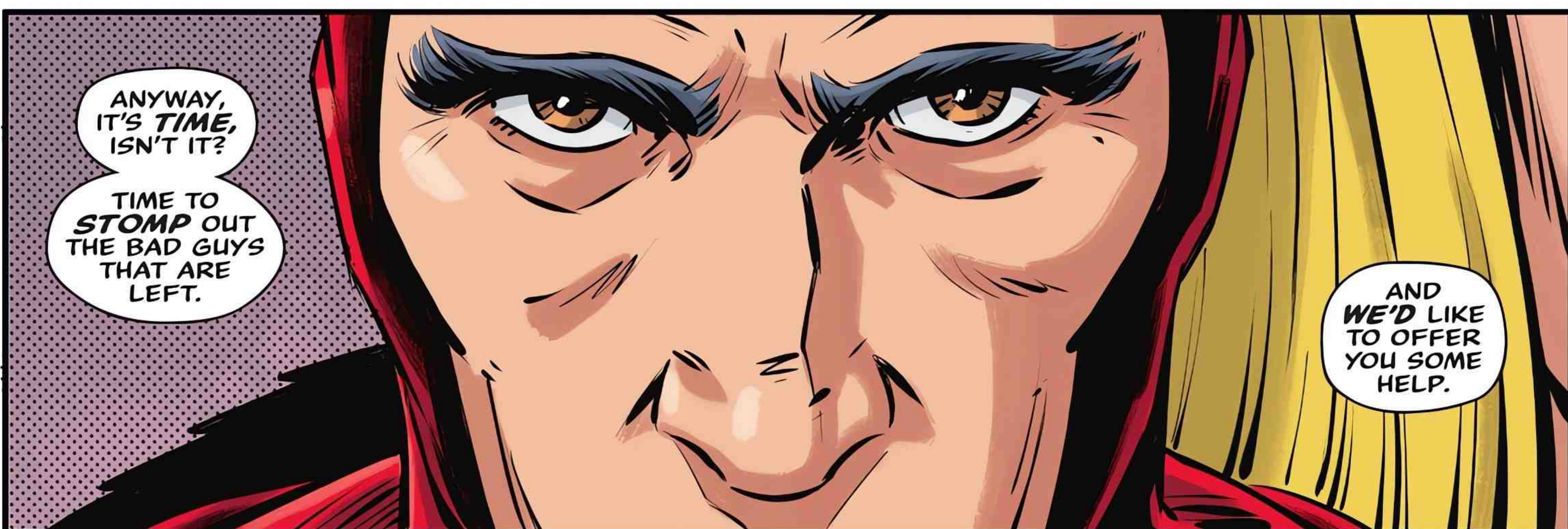
HERE YOU GO!

THE, UH, THE **WARLORD SWORD**. I GUESS.

IT'S **REALLY** NICE, BUT KIND OF HEAVY.

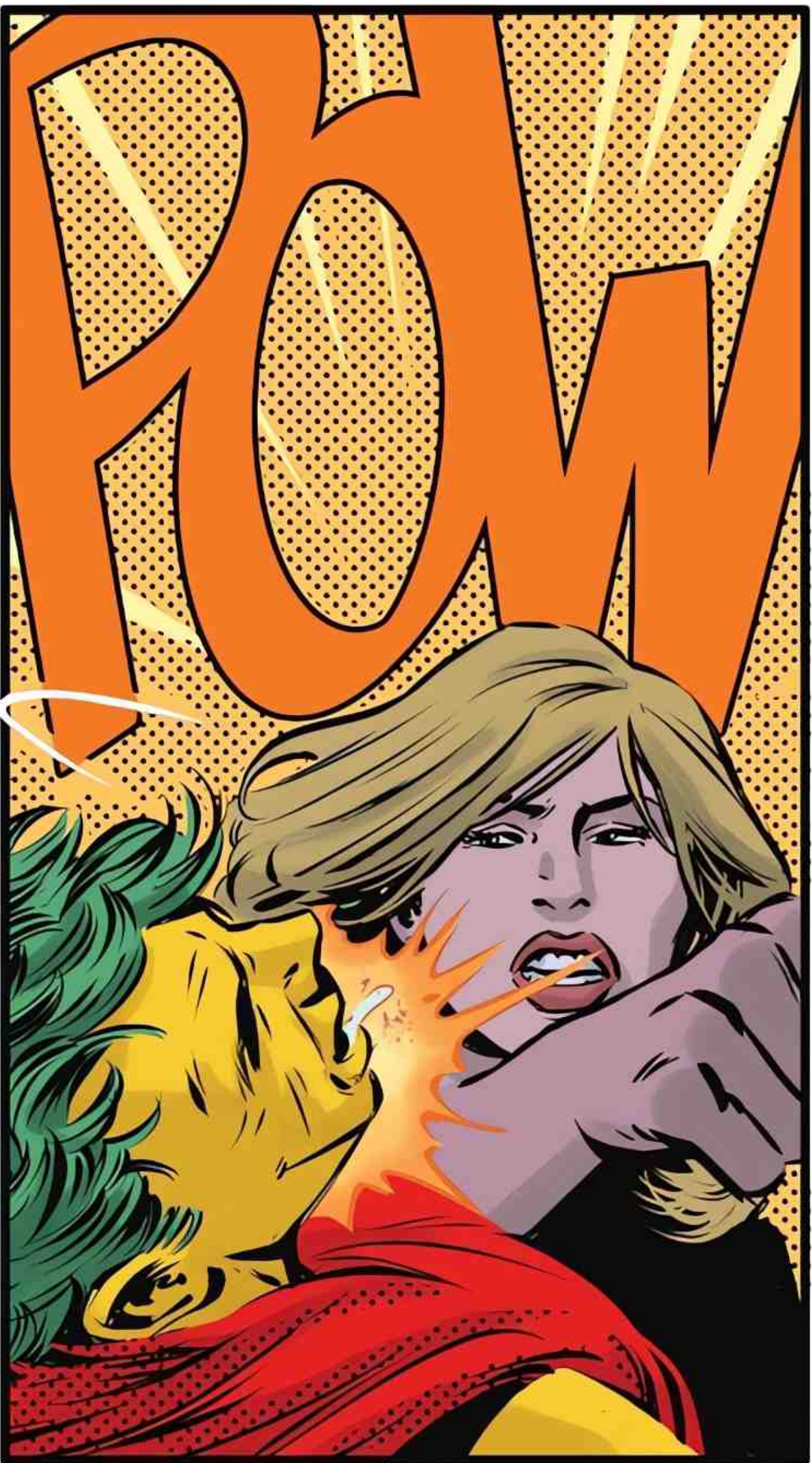
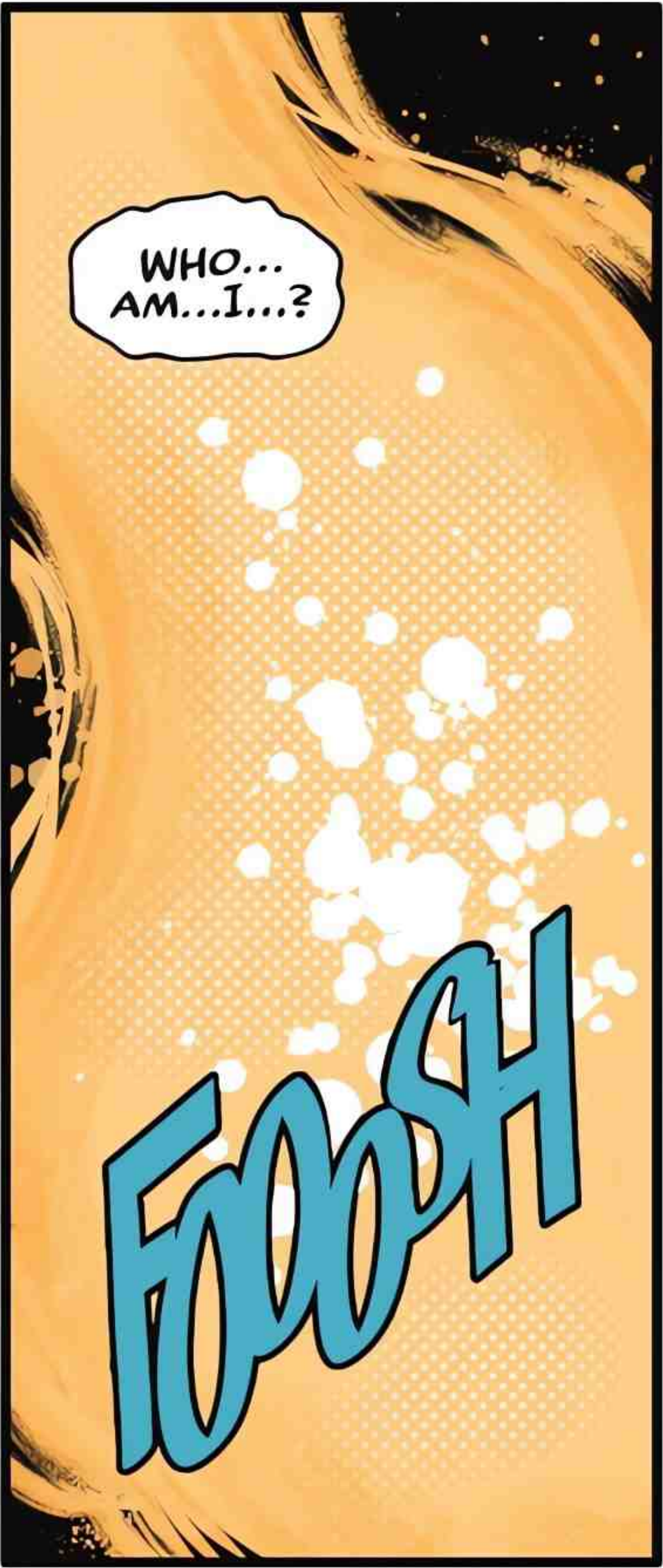
ANYWAY, IT'S **TIME**, ISN'T IT?

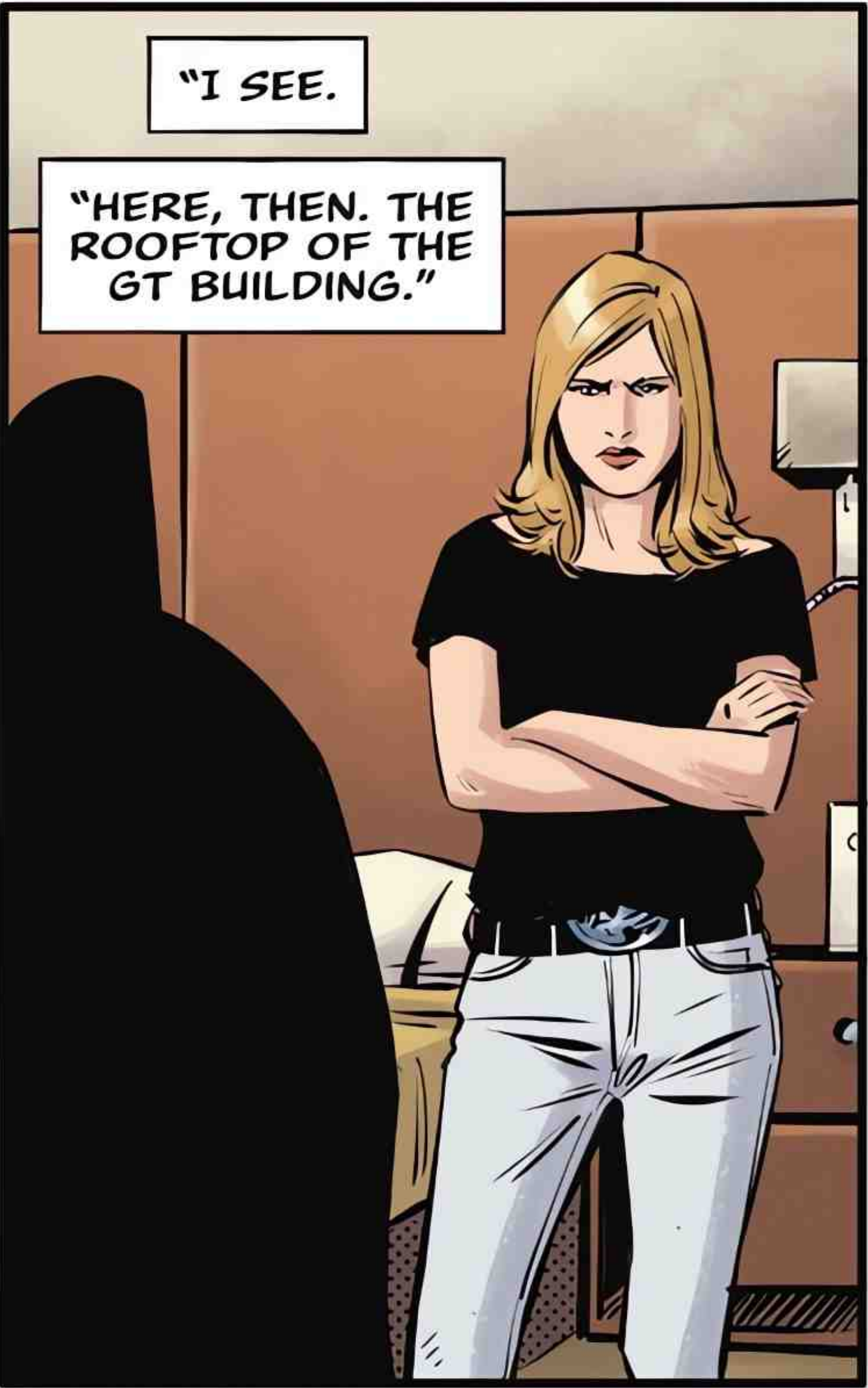
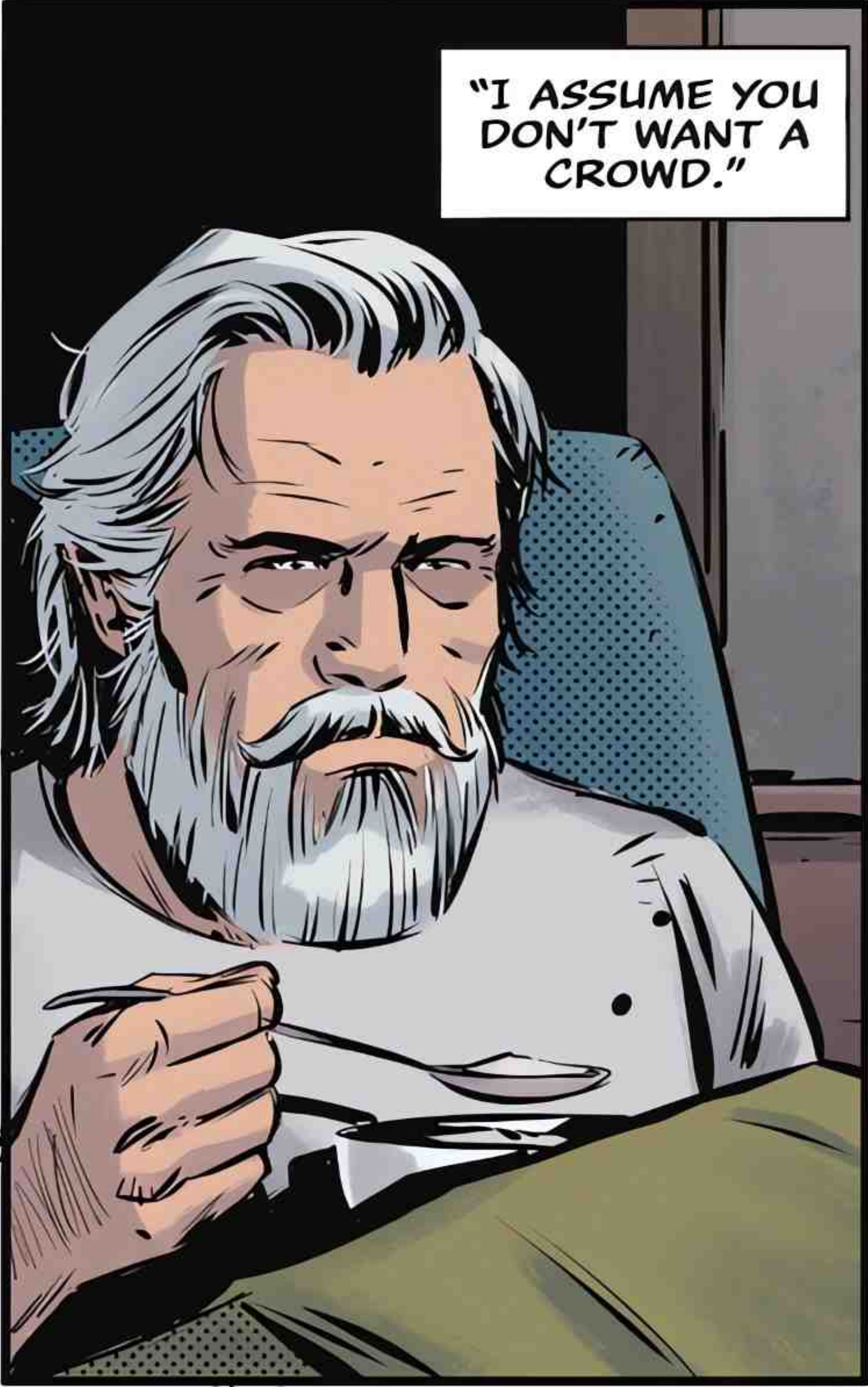
TIME TO **STOMP** OUT THE BAD GUYS THAT ARE LEFT.



AND **WE'D** LIKE TO OFFER YOU SOME HELP.

BACK ACROSS AN OCEAN, FOLLOWING A LONG AND WET MEAL, SEEMINGLY UNAWARE OF HIS DRUNKENNESS, THE OGRE RAMBLED ON.





AN EERIE MELODY HAUNTS THE GOTHAM CITY STREETS...
CAN THE DARK KNIGHT DISCOVER WHAT
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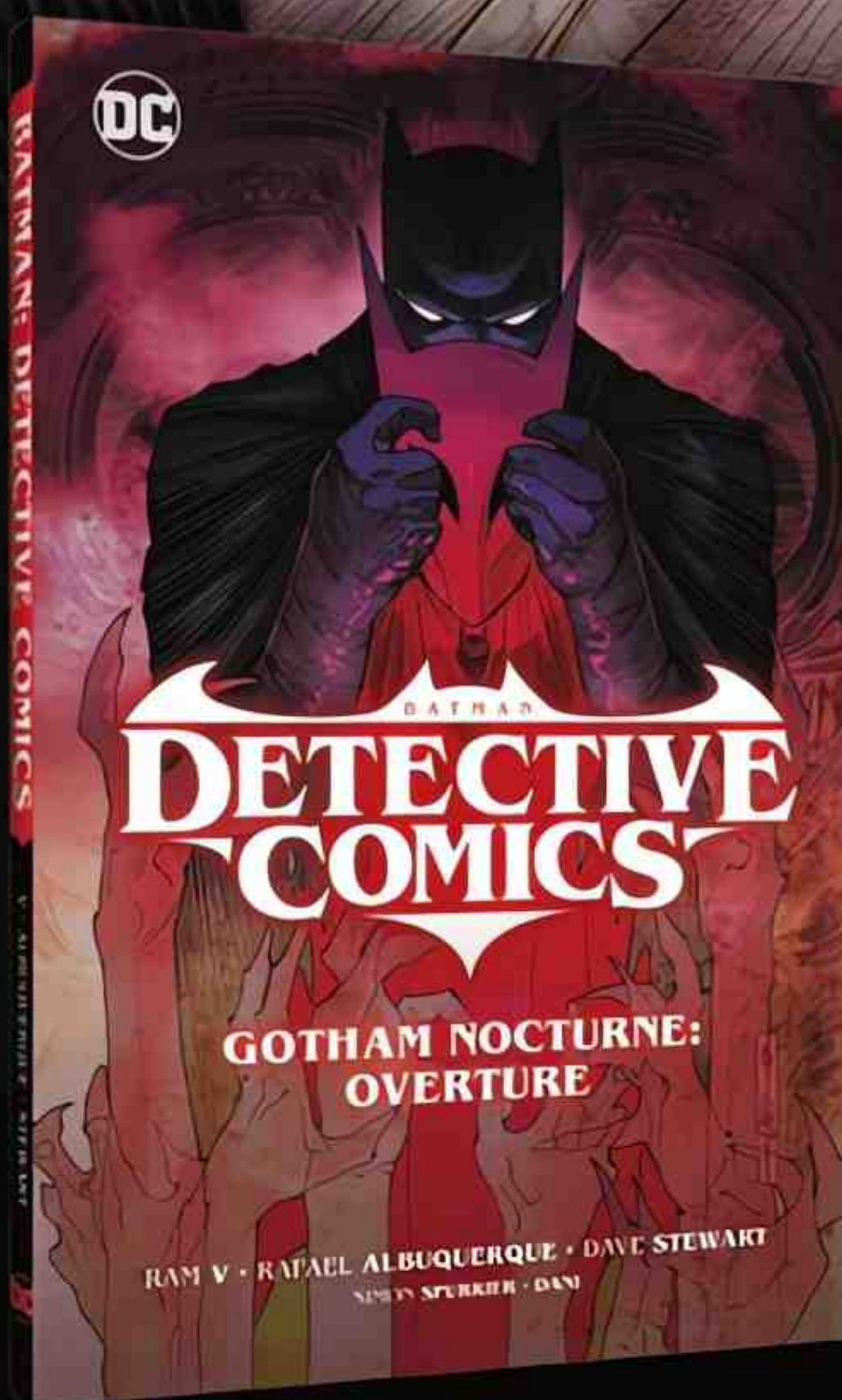
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GOTHAM NOCTURNE: OVERTURE

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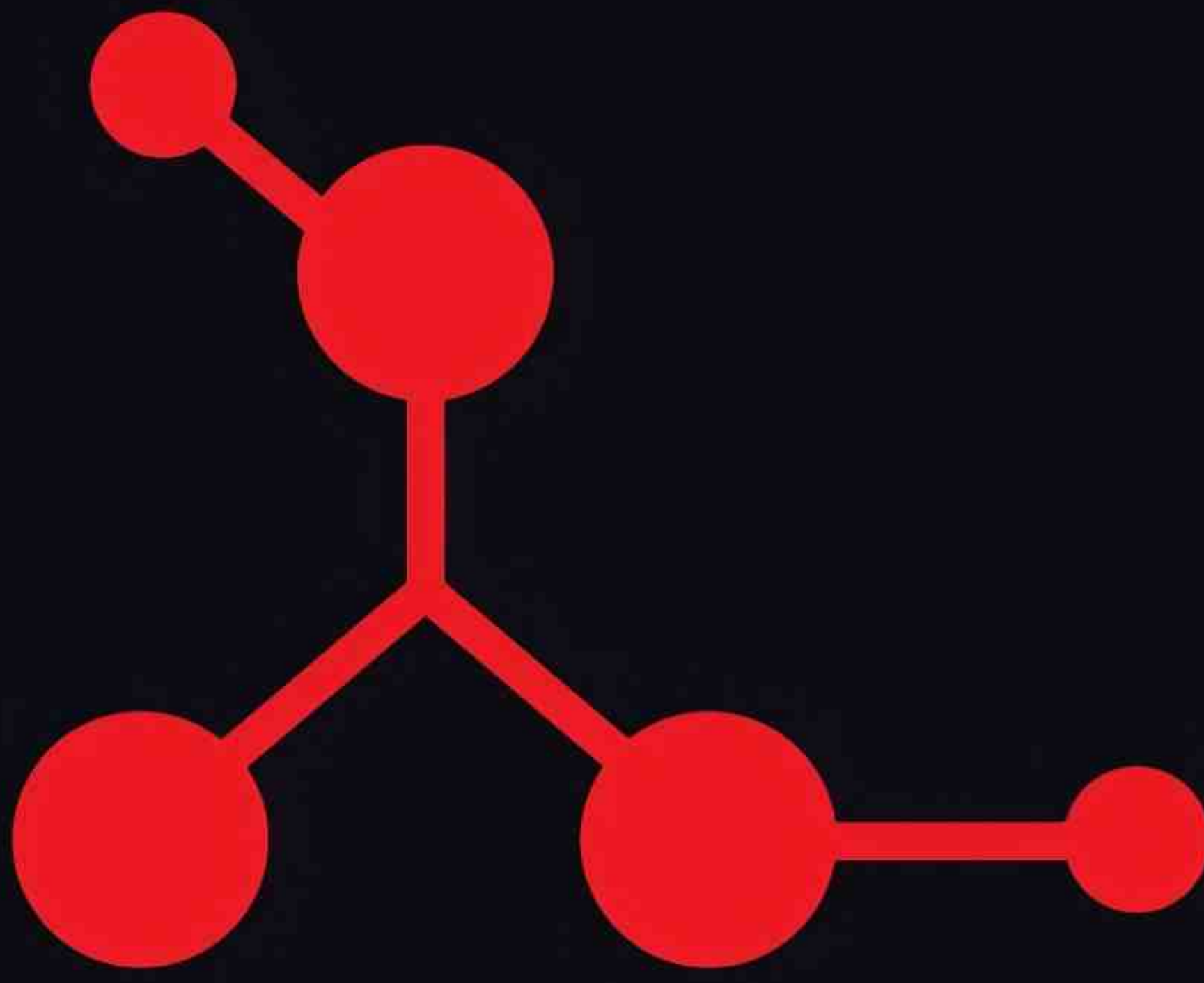
ART BY
**RAFAEL
ALBUQUERQUE**
WITH DANI



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AUGUST



"ONE SIDE GETS A **DREAM**
COME TRUE. THE OTHER—
A **NIGHTMARE.**"

